National Anti-Slavery Standard.

SYDNEY HOWARD GAY, EDITOR.

Without Concealment....Without Compromise.

EDMUND QUINCY,
JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL, } CORRESPONDING EDITORS.

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Selections.

From The Liberator.

RECEPTION OF GEORGE THOMPSON, M. P., AT WORCESTER.

Boston Rebuked—Free Discussion Triumphant—Glorious and Enthusiastic Meeting!

PHONOGRAPHIC REPORT BY ROBERT BOND.

LAST Saturday morning, a meeting was held in the City Hall, Worcester, for the purpose of congratulating Mr. GEORGE THOMPSON on his arrival in this country, after an absence of fifteen years. The meeting was announced to commence at 10 1-2, A. M.; but long before that hour, notwithstanding the peculiarly pressing engagements of the day, the spacious hall was filled with a very respectable and intelligent audience. A special train brought upwards of two hundred persons from Boston, who had been disappointed of hearing Mr. Thompson in that city, but were determined not thus to be deprived of the pleasure of doing him honor. At the hour announced, the meeting being an adjournment of that held in Faneuil Hall on the 15th inst., and riotously broken up, the officers there appointed took their respective positions—and

EDMUND QUINCY, the President, called the meeting to order. He commenced by referring to the meeting held in Boston, giving an explanation of the cause of its interruption, and continuing as follows: It was evident that the city authorities were determined not to interfere to stop the disorderly conduct of the disturbers. Order could not be restored so far as to enable Mr. Thompson to be heard. He was withdrawn, and the meeting was adjourned to this time and place. It must not be taken that this result, however, is a true index of the public sentiment of Boston. (Cheers.) It has been falsely represented that this was an expression of public opinion there—that the majority of those composing the meeting were determined not to let Mr. Thompson speak. This is false. The great majority of those in Faneuil Hall that night were friendly to Mr. Thompson, or, at least, anxious to hear him speak. (Cheers.) Boston having thus disgraced herself, it was for the heart of the State to administer the rebuke, and therefore we accepted the invitation, and we are here to-day. (Cheers.) We have come to you here, knowing that here at least, we shall be safe from disorderly interruption; and even should there be any evil disposed or riotous persons, you have a Mayor and a Police who are able and willing to take them in hand, and dispose of them. (Cheers.) In the name of that meeting, I thank the citizens of Worcester for the welcome which they have given us. I thank them for having opened this spacious hall for our reception, and that they are here in such numbers personally to greet us. (Applause.) The meeting being now opened, we shall proceed to the business before us, precisely as if we had not been broken up in Boston. Wm. Lloyd Garrison will first read a series of resolutions which he has prepared as an expression of the sentiments of that meeting, and as we believe of the sense of this also. (Applause.)

William Lloyd Garrison then advanced, and the cheering with which he was received having partially subsided, proceeded to read the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the 'heart of the Commonwealth' beats high with delight at the presence of the untiring reformer and universal philanthropist, GEORGE THOMPSON, of England—now on a friendly visit to these shores—and welcomes him as a guest worthy of the confidence, esteem and hospitality of all those who sympathize with the oppressed, and yearn for the deliverance of a groaning world.

Resolved, That for his successful labors in behalf of eight hundred thousand bondmen, now rejoicing in freedom in the British West India Islands—his active interest in the cause of three millions of chattel slaves in America—his disinterested advocacy of the rights of the plundered natives of India—his strenuous endeavors to elevate and enfranchise the laboring classes of England—and his noble efforts for the promotion of international and universal peace—he has shown himself to be dead to the feelings of national exclusiveness, alive to the sufferings and the claims of a common humanity, and worthy of a high rank among the world's benefactors.

Resolved, That we remember with lively gratitude his former mission of good-will to this Slavery-ridden country, but this remembrance is accompanied with feelings of shame and sorrow at the fiery persecution he was then called to endure, evincing as it did an insane state of the public mind, similar to that which prevailed eighteen hundred years ago, when the rabble shouted, 'Away with him! Crucify him! Crucify him!'

Resolved, That the riotous suppression of a meeting held in Faneuil Hall, on the evening of the 15th inst., to welcome his arrival among us—no speaker being allowed a hearing, in consequence of the continuous interruption and indecent behavior of an organized band of lawless and impudent intruders—deepens the shame and infamy indissolubly attached to the character of Boston, in consequence of the never-to-be-forgotten mob of 1835, and calls for a stern rebuke on the part of all that is free, generous and noble in the Commonwealth.

Resolved, That the city authorities of Boston have covered themselves with disgrace, and deserve to be held up to universal condemnation, for having permitted, even in their very presence, and without the slightest effort to prevent it, this mobocratic dispersion of a meeting legally held, and convened for the highest purposes of humanity.

Resolved, That when, in Faneuil Hall, the uncompromising friend of liberty, the advocate of justice to the wronged, the champion of the rights of the humblest, is not allowed to speak, in consequence of the supremacy of mob law in the city, it is time to inscribe on its walls, 'Ichabod—the glory is departed,' and to remove therefrom the portraits of Washington, Hancock, Adams, and every memorial of our revolutionary history. (Cheers.)

Resolved, That the manner in which the Boston *Times*, *Bee*, *Herald*, *Mail*, *Pilot*, and other lawless and depraved journals (cheers), instigated and sanctioned this riotous assault, demonstrates that the editors, proprietors and reporters of those journals are profligate, shameless, and cowardly ruffians (cheers), as destitute of principle as highwaymen and burglars (cheers), the enemies of the country (cheers), and fit associates for the occupants of the common jail and State prison (cheers); and that while such incendiary journals are extensively patronised, the peace of the community is constantly liable to be invaded, neither life nor property is safe, and the foundations of public morality are fearfully weakened. (Immense and prolonged cheering.)

Resolved, That it is the natural and legal right of any man on our soil, whether foreigner or native, to examine with the utmost freedom all the institutions and practices of the country—to approve or condemn, support or oppose, all such, as his conscience or judgment shall determine—to exercise unmolested the liberty of speech on all subjects; and that right will never be questioned nor denied, except by tyrants and their minions, or when there is 'something rotten in the State of Denmark.'

Resolved, That if the mother country deserves to be execrated for having 'entailed' upon her colonies the anti-republican and unchristian system of Slavery, surely he who comes to us from her shores, to sympathise with us in view of this great calamity, and to aid us in seeking its peaceful overthrow, ought to be received with special gratitude, and publicly honored as the true friend and benefactor of the country.

Resolved, That if George Thompson had come to this country to denounce the abolitionists, instead of the traffickers in human flesh—to vindicate Slavery as 'the corner stone of our republican edifice,' instead of advocating the self-evident truths of the American Declaration of Independence—to prove from the Bible that turning human beings into articles of merchandize is in accordance with the will of God, instead of affirming the right of every human being to be free—no outcry would have been raised against him on the ground that he was a foreigner, and meddling with what did not concern him; but from the *Washington Union* to Bennett's *Herald*, from the *National Intelligencer* to the *Boston Courier*, he would have been eulogized and honored in the most extravagant manner.

Resolved, That Slavery, like idolatry, is a system to be assailed by the friends of God wherever it exists, or in his providence they are called to dwell without regard to the usages, laws or institutsons of any country—the field of duty, in the service of Christ, the Redeemer and Savior, being the world.

Resolved, That we extend to GEORGE THOMPSON and his co-laborers in England, our warmest sympathies and best wishes in in their efforts in behalf of universal suffrage and the rights of the down-trodden laboring classes. (Prolonged cheering.)

WENDELL PHILLIPS, of Boston, followed in a highly effective and eloquent speech, which we shall publish in the next *Liberator*.

SPEECH OF MR. THOMPSON.

GEORGE THOMPSON, Esq., M. P., rose amidst the most enthusiastic applause, which was again and again renewed. He spoke as follows:

Citizens of Worcester, Ladies and Gentlemen: I must acknowledge, in very brief terms, this your very cordial welcome to the heart of the State of Massachusetts. My speech must be wholly unpremeditated, and, delivered under circumstances like these, it is likely to be extremely imperfect and unconnected. For, however qualified I may be to withstand opposition, and contend with prejudice, and hatred, and malignity, I do not pretend to be able, at any time, to acknowledge compliments to myself, or to make a suitable return to those who are pleased, in their partiality and friendship, to pronounce an encomium upon me. (Cheers.) To me it is much more congenial to have to fight with beasts at Ephesus, than to contend with the smiles and approbation of those who sympathize with me. (Loud cheers.) Therefore, ladies and gentlemen, if you expect from me this morning an eloquent acknowledgment of the compliments which have been paid me by my friend who has just sat down, you are doomed to disappointment. And if you expect from me a speech suited to the meridian of that part of Faneuil Hall which is situated immediately below the chandelier, you expect a speech most inappropriate in the City Hall of the heart of the old Bay State.—(Laughter and cheers.)

My friends, my advent in this country, announced by telegraphic communication to the citizens of this great country with extraordinary celerity and particularity, seems to have created a great sensation; and what is it all about? (Loud cheers.) I cannot understand it. I come to this country upon no special mission. Those to whom I communicated my intentions a fortnight before I left England, will bear me witness that, in my own hand writing, I declared I did not come to this country to undertake, as I undertook 1834, an Anti-Slavery mission, but to see those with whom I had been privileged to labor in the days that were past, and to have an opportunity of ascertaining for myself what you had been doing in this country during the period that had elapsed since my former visit. (Cheers.)

It appears, however, (continued Mr. Thompson,) that, whether I will or no, I am to be identified with the Anti-Slavery movement in this country. Be it so; I have no wish to repudiate that identity.—(Cheers.) It appears that, in the person of the humble individual before you, is to be tested the right of a man not born upon this soil, to speak out his honest sentiments upon a subject affecting the liberty of three millions of the people of this country. Be it so. (Cheers.) I am willing that that question should be submitted to the American people. I do not fear the verdict. That there may be no mistake, I boldly claim that right to-day, and will assert it, and exercise it, until prevented from doing so by the unequivocal voice of the virtuous and intelligent citizens of this Commonwealth. (Loud cheers.) It appears that I am to be made responsible for the Anti-Slavery principles of those who surround me on this platform. Be it so. (Cheers.) I do not shrink from that responsibility; but, on the contrary, esteem it to be an honor to be ranked with men, who have made themselves of no reputation by being the advocates of the cause of the oppressed millions in this country. (Cheers.) And further, if it be necessary, in the year 1850 or 1851, for a man to endure and suffer in defence of the right of speaking, in any part of the world, his honest opinions on the subject of human rights, I am content, for the rest of this year, for the whole of next year, until the question be settled. to remain in the United States of America—(Immense and long continued cheers.) I have not sought a controversy with the public or the press on the question of Slavery; but if it is thrust upon me I shall not shun it. On the contrary, I shall rejoice to welcome it—shall hope to have the last word upon it, and to come victor out of it. (Loud cheers.) I am branded as a foreigner! Well, if it be a crime, others are more responsible, and therefore more blameable, than myself. (Laughter and cheers.) I am told, that free speech is to be bounded by geographical lines. Those lines have not been, as yet, defined. I am therefore perplexed. May I express my thoughts upon American affairs in England?—May I express them while the vessel that bears me here is gliding down the Mersey? May I express them when we have lost sight of Cape Clear? May I express them half way over the Atlantic? Am I then free to speak what I think of America in relation to her domestic institutions, her '*peculiar*' domestic institution? (Cheers and laughter.) May I speak all the way over the Atlantic? Will the free winds that fill our sails rebuke me? Will the free billows that play around our ship forbid me? Shall I meet with no rebuke unless it be from some fellow passenger, who claims the right of insulting any man that lifts up his voice on behalf of the slaves that are weeping on his plantation? (Cheers.) When does my right cease to be a right? Why have I not the right here? I have yet to learn that I have been rebuked by the voice of your own institutions! Your forefathers, very plainly, very openly, one fine morning, spoke out their minds, and you are what you are to-day, because they declared in the face of the world the right of every human being to free speech; the right also to declare their opinions upon all matters of human government.—Does the Declaration of Independence rebuke me for proclaiming this self-evident truth, that God has created all men free and equal? (Cheers.)

But, then, the question is said to be 'American' and I am to be put down! But who says so? Do the three millions of slaves at the South say, 'Put him down'? If they were not smitten with dumbness by the rod of the enchanter, they would answer that they desired not that I should be put down! Am I told to be silent by the five hundred thousand colored persons who are scattered all over the free States of America? I have not met with a single colored man who has conjured me to be silent in reference to the wrongs of his race on these shores! When at Faneuil Hall, I was told that I had no right to speak. By whom was I told this? By the orderly and the decent? No! By the intellectual and moral? No! By the sober and the patriotic? No! By any portion of the community of this great country, for whom I could entertain any respect, and by whose judgment I am likely to be guided? No! But by those who came together to enjoy an hour's amusement in preventing even their own citizens from being heard; and who, in a temple consecrated to liberty, insulted the goddess at her own altar!—[Tremendous cheers!] If I am to follow the advice of a hundred and fifty boys, who mingled their voies together on the occasion referred to? Certainly not! But, my friends, *with* or *without* permission of such persons, I claim the right to speak my thoughts on the question of Slavery to any audience, either here or elsewhere, and I shall not be terrified by any opposition I may meet with, whatever form that opposition may take. I will follow the example of America and Americans in this respect. I have travelled in many parts of the world; I have met Americans wherever I have gone; and I have not found that the citizens of the United States of America have, of all other men in the world, been the most prudent or the most taciturn in reference to their opinion of the institutions of those countries in which they have travelled. I have met an American missionary on the shores of Madras; I have heard him stand up and revile the gods of a hundred millions of the human race. I have heard him denounce all that was most connected with the prejudices and most intimately associated with the government of the people of the country. I have met Americans even under the walls of the Great Mogul at Delhi, where they have grappled with the superstitions and errors of the Mahommedan: and I have commended them for the boldness which led them, in the midst of danger, to declare the whole counsel of God.

Then let me cite another instance in proof of the fact, that America does not act upon the rule which she lays down for others. I hold in my hand an authorized report of a speech delivered in the Senate of the United States by the Hon. Lewis Cass, one of the candidates for the Presidential chair. Does he denounce his own countrymen for expressing their opinion in reference to the political conduct of other nations? No. He recommends the government of the United States to fix the brand of infamy upon Austria, by recalling her minister from Vienna, and by suspending all diplomatic relations with the oppressor of Hungary. (Cheers.) While he denounces Haynau as a butcher and a woman-flogger, he extols the Sultan of Turkey and his compatriots, and holds him up to the world's admiration for refusing to yield to the demand of the Czar for the deliverance of the fugitives from the banks of the Danube. (Loud cheers.)

[Here Mr. Thompson read the following extracts from the speech of Senator Cass:—]

"I freely confess that I shall hail the day with pleasure when this Government, reflecting the true sentiments of the people, shall express its sympathy for struggling millions, seeking, in circumstances of peril and oppression, that liberty which was given to them by God, but has been wrested from them by man. I do not see any danger to the true independence of nations by such a course; and indeed I am by no means certain that the interchange of public views in this solemn manner would not go far towards checking the progress of oppression and the tendency to war. Why, sir, the very discussion in high places and free places—and here is one of them—even when discussion is followed by no act, is itself a great element of of retributive justice to punish it when an atrocious deed is done, and a great element of moral power to restrain it when such deed is contemplated. I claim for our country no exemption from the decrees of these high tribunals; and when we are guilty of a tithe of the oppression and cruelty which have made the Austrian name a name of reproach through the world, I hope we shall receive, as we shall well merit, the opprobrium of mankind.

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"Now, sir, I say it without reserve, that a Power thus setting at defiance the opinion of the world, and violating the best feelings of our nature, in the very wantonness of successful cruelty, has no bond of union with the American people. The sooner the diplomatic intercourse is dissolved, and dissolved with marks of indignant reprobation—the sooner shall we perform an act of public duty, which, at home and abroad, will meet with feelings of kindred sympathy from all, wherever they may be, who are not fit subjects for the tender mercies of Austrian power.

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"The Divan, faithful to the traditions of Eastern hospitality, if not to the obligations of the law of nations, firmly refused the delivery of the fugitives, and thus spared another 'deluge of blood,' to use the words of the great Roman historian, in this sad drama of a nation's overthrow."

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"The Mahometan has shown himself a better Christian than the Russian, and has won the approbation of an enlightened age. Success be with him in such a warfare!"

If the honorable senator from Michigan had a right to say all this, have I not an equal right to speak my mind on the subject of American Slavery? Does it mend the matter to tell me that the honorable Senator spoke his mind in the chamber at Washington, while I would speak my mind to the Americans themselves, upon their own soil? Now, sir, I contend that the true reason why myself and others are denied liberty of speech upon American affairs is, that there is in your midst a system which cannot bear investigation, and opposition to which is at variance with the interests and prejudices and lusts of a large portion of this community. (Cheers.) But, sir, were it not so, still I should claim the right. of offering an explanatiou of my views upon the question of Slavery, and on every question connected with the interests of mankind. (Applause.)

But, permit me to say, that England has a peculiar right, in the person of any one of her sons, to 'interfere,' if the South will call it so, in the question of Slavery. I have been told again and again, on the other side of the Atlantic, that England is answerable for this institution; that we brought, planted and watered here, from age to age, this deadly plant; that upon England, and not upon America, rests the responsibility of the guilt of this atrocious system. Well, be it so! (Cheers.) If this be the fact, and for the present I am not going to deny it, certainly an Englishman, who regrets that England ever committed the crime of enslaving any portion of the human race, may be permitted to come and make his friendly and earnest appeal to the political principles, the moral feelings, and the religious sentiments of the people of America, in behalf of the liberation of the descendants of those whom England enslaved, before the era of your own revolution. (Loud cheers.) But, sir, is it not a fact, that the subjects of her Majesty, the Queen of England, are not free to go to any of your Southern ports? That the colored crews of vessels trading from the islands of the West Indies are taken out and imprisoned, and are treated not as the free subjects of another nation, but as felons, and are not restored to liberty until their vessel is ready again to embark upon the ocean. Sir, I assert that as an Englishman, I have a right to protest against this. (Applause.) I contend that I have the right to claim for my colored fellow subject the liberty which every sailor on board United States ships enjoys on entering the ports of England, or any of England's dependencies, in any part of the world. (Loud cheers.) Again, sir, I have the right to complain of your inflicting upon the cause of reform in England a most serious injury, and of retarding the progress of liberal opinions there, by enabling the enemies of human freedom to quote the example of America as that of a nation having only adopted the form of republican institutions to crush closer to the earth one-sixth part of their fellow-citizens. (Cheers.) Again, sir, let those who seek to silence me in America be consistent, and silence the men they have sent over from this country to the other side. Why, sir, it has been my unpleasant task to track Americans over our country, during the fifteen years I have been absent from you, again and again to make, indeed, almost the circuit of the British Islands, to furnish an antidote to the pro-slavery poison which Americans have diffused through our land. (Loud cheers.) They have corrupted our churches; they have shackled our Anti-Slavery movements; they have misrepresented the abolitionists of this country; they have wholly caricatured the condition of the slave at the South. Many of those who ran well in England for a time, have been turned aside from the right course by the efforts of men, who, if not sent over the water for that purpose, have made it one of their objects, on getting to Europe, to mislead the public mind of England on the question of American Slavery. [Applause.] In return for the visits of these gentlemen, I propose to offer myself to the attention of the citizens of the United States of America. [Loud cheers.] Did you hear of those gentlemen being mobbed in England? Never! Did you hear of George Thompson denying any his right to speak? Never! Some of them might have said they owed a hearing in England to the interference of the very humble individual who stands before you. [Applause.] The vilest pro-slavery advocate who may tread our shores shall be sure of a hearing, if it is in my power to obtain it for him. [Immense cheers.] But this agitation must be put down! [A laugh.] I have not been told how I wait to hear. [Applause.] Do the great mass of the country say that it shall be put down? Never! I am afraid, to use a common English expression, that they have reckoned without their host. [Laughter.] I am afraid they resemble certain mice we read of in the fable, who undertook to bell the cat; but when the cat was to be belled, the wisest among them failed to discover the method. [Laughter.] They have fulminated anathemas against you at Washington, but have they put down the Anti-Slavery agitation? Shall it be put down? [Loud cries of 'No!'] Have they not to war with the very instincts of humanity? Have they not first to silence the very sympathies of the country? And they can never do it!

Sir, I might congratulate this assembly upon the progress that has been made since I was last here [Hear, hear.] It was my good fortune to be in Faneuil Hall, on another occasion than that to which reference has been made by the Chair, and hear Mr. Charles Sumner deliver a most able and eloquent address in denunciation of the Fugitive Slave Bill. [Applause.] I could not forget that fifteen years before, that Hall was crowded with persons anxious to hear men who were there for the purpose of denouncing me, and of recommending to the people of Massachusetts the passage of a law, making it criminal even to discuss the question of Slavery. [Applause.] I could not but contrast the different state of things then and now. Had I taken ship for my native country the following morning, I should have returned home with the conviction, that the fifteen years that had passed had been years crowned with as great success in the advocacy of the cause of human rights as ever crowned the efforts of any reformers in the history of the world. [Cheers.] Still, you have only begun this great struggle; still, you have more than three millions of slaves in your territories. Talk of this country being free! Why, an Englishman who is honest in the utterance of his opinions cannot safely travel it! Could I see the actual mammoth caves of Kentucky? No. I am obliged to be content with seeing them described on canvas?—[Cheers.] But if I undertook a journey to those caves, and lived to get there, do you think I should ever come out? [Applause.] I may gaze upon the rivers of any other portion of the globe, but may I gaze upon the Father of Waters at the South? May I cross the Potomac, or visit your western wilds? Let Austria and Russia be railed at as General Cass pleases, may I travel in the sunny South as I may in any portion of the most despotic countries of Europe? [Applause.] If this be the case, if a free man may not at the South pronounce a candid opinion on the question of Slavery, is your country free? [Cries of 'No! no!'] And if your country be not free, what must be the effect upon other countries? Why, that every advocate of kingcraft and priestcraft in the Old World quotes this damning fact, and throws it in the path of those who are laboring for reform under other governments. I should not have ventured to have taken any part in the Anti-Slavery agitation of this country, if I had felt myself rebuked for a lack of sympathy with the reform movements of England; but I can truly say, that I have never, in any public addresses that I have made in my life, uttered one solitary sentiment repugnant to the political principles which you cherish in this country. [Applause.] Everywhere have I endeavored to prepare men for a great struggle for the establishment of those principles. Everywhere have I sought to recommend whatever was noble in your own conduct to the imitation of those who sought to be free! Having done this, and feeling quite sure that it was my solemn desire to promote the cause of freedom, and being confident that no man can quote anything I have ever uttered which is derogatory to the principles of human liberty, or inimical to the interests of the institutions of America, I think I may ask that when I am invited to deliver an address, I have permission to do so,—not with fear and trembling, but standing erect, as a freeman amongst freemen, willing that my opinions should be canvassed, and my principles compared with those which you have made the foundation of your own independance. [Loud cheers.]

I shall not detain the meeting long this morning, hoping to say a few additional words in the after part of the day. I will conclude by expressing my satisfaction on finding in this State all the elements that are necessary to make this great cause triumphant. I do not think it necessary now, for myself or any other man, to come from Europe to this country as a missionary on the subject of Slavery. [Applause.] When I was here before, I had audiences few in number, and all sympathy in the principles I advocated generally unpopular. But, to-day, I find you have really no need of foreign interference. You have made Anti-Slavery respectable and popular; you have eloquence of the highest order, virtue and courage, and self-denial equal to any that were ever exhibited in behalf of any reform movement in the world! [Cheers.] You have men and women amongst you, whom it is as idle to suppose can be 'put down,' as that Mrs. Partington could keep back the waves of the Atlantic, standing in her pattens, and having only a broom in her hands. [Laughter and cheers.] I venture to say that not all the statesmen of this country can put you down. The statesmen who so talk, are putting themselves down. They may say, as John the Baptist did of Christ—'I must *decrease*, but thou shalt *increase*.' [Applause] Let no man who expects to live seven years talk of putting down abolition. Let no man desirous of fame, who is an aspirant for public or posthumous honors; let no man. I say, who wishes his name to be remembered and cherished when he is dead, talk of putting this agitation down! [Cheers.] No, sir, it is not in the nature of things possible that these principles can be put down, either by threats, or resolutions, or laws.

I have been refreshed as I have mingled with the people of this State to find that they have 'conquered their prejudices' [laughter and loud cheers], and that they have harnessed themselves for the race that is before them. [Continued laughter and cheers.] I wish them 'God speed.' The cause of liberty is to be fought and won on your shores! It is a sublime spectacle which the foreigner is called on to behold in this country at this moment! It is here that Christianity is fighting her noblest battle! Look over the face of the world! I cannot find anything there resembling the battle-ground between Christianity and Despotism, similar to that I find here! I cannot doubt for a moment the issue of this conflict! I cannot doubt that you will act worthy of your ancestors! You will carry out the principles upon which you established your own freedom. And be assured of this, that we, on the other side, who are seeking to elevate our fellow-subjects to the enjoyment of that liberty which is your birthright, wish you well, and see with joy the progress you are making in this great cause. [Applause.] Therefore, I beseech you, my friends, not merely for the sake of your own country, but for the sake of all other lands, where the freedom that is man's inheritance is partially or entirely withheld, stand fast in this great cause; and be assured that we, in the old country, will deeply sympathize with you in all your movements, and rejoice in the success that you achieve. [Cheers.]

I have now only to express my deep gratitude to you, the citizens of Worcester, for the reception you have given me this morning, and to beg that you will believe, that whatever may be the opinions entertained of me by those who hate me, I shall feel the deepest and most lively interest in all that concerns your welfare, and be the first to hail the establishment in this country of a true republic—a republic that shall confer freedom on men, not according to the clime in which they were born, or the complexion they may wear, but that shall invite all, as brethren, to the enjoyment of the blessings which the victory won by your fathers was intended to confer upon mankind at large. [Long and continued applause.]

Upon motion, the meeting then adjourned till half past 2 o'clock, P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 2, P. M., the spacious hall was again filled with a grand audience, every portion being crowded even more densely than at the morning sitting. The President, Edmund Quincy, called the meeting to order.

After the appointment of a financial committee, the meeting was ably adressed by Mr. C. L. Remond, of Salem; who, on concluding, gave way to

Mr. Thompson, whose reception was, if possible, even more cordial and enthusiastic than in the morning. When silence was obtained, he spoke as follows:

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen—I did not expect to be so soon called upon to make a second speech before the good citizens of Worcester; but I cheerfully obey the request of the Chairman.

A demonstration of kindness, like that which you have made to-day, gladdens my heart, less because it is a compliment to myself, than as an index to the altered state of public opinion in this country, and as a proof that, on the question of Slavery, the heart of your Commonwealth is sound. [Cheers.] Let me say, that, Slavery out of view, I regard with feelings of inexpressible gratification the prosperity of this great country. [Applause.] I feel proud of my own land, if for nothing else, that she has become the mother of nations; and that, looking over the water upon this her offspring, she has reason to be glad that those who have descended from a common stock with me, have found in this land so goodly a heritage; that they lie down in green pastures, and rest beside the still waters.' [Applause.]

I believe, my friends, that it is the desire of the vast majority of my countrymen and women, that there should be everlasting peace between our country and yours [loud cheers]—and that the only struggle, the only rivalry should be, who shall bless the world most; who shall do most to extend throughout the earth those principles to which we, in common with yourselves, are indebted for all of greatness, all of glory that we possess, and all the usefulness that we can effect. [Applause.]

I came to this country, certainly, with a bill of indictment: it is against that colossal power which has raised up, amidst the fairest scenes of nature, an institution so foul as that of Slavery. [Cheers.] I war with it, because it makes war upon man. I war with it, because it is that all-compromising sin, which is the violation of every law that is divine and human, in the perpetration of one act. [Applause.] It is not merely a crime against man, but it is an usurpation of the authority and the prerogative of Jehovah himself. [Cheers.] The slaveholder needs to make no profession of his faith; he is branded, in the eyes of the universe, as a daring atheist. [Loud cheers.] He may sit beneath the sound of the gospel; he may contribute to the propagation of Christiantty in foreign parts; he may profess to reverence God and things divine; but, in the hour that he put forth his hand to claim a weaker brother as his own, he dethroned the Almighty, he committed an act of impiety not perpetrated even by those who, we are taught to believe, fell from heaven. In that one act, he has declared eternal hostility to the God 'who hath made of one blood all nations of men to dwell upon all the face of the earth' [Immense cheers.] It is irrespective of the country in which it exists; the universally recognized principles of morality have no geographical limits, no country, clime, profession of faith, or political parties, in the presence of three millions of human beings, whose rights have been struck down, and who, if they have a right to complain louder than another, it is because their liberty has been taken from them under the shadow of a temple erected to the Genius of Universal Emancipation. [Loud cheers.]

Sir, if this were a mere question as to how you should govern yourselves, I, for one, should not interfere. I grant to all men, the world over, the right to prescribe the laws under which they shall live, and the form of government to which they shall be subject; and, granting it to you, I claim it for the slave. [Loud cheers.] Let him have the same privilege, or rather the same right with you, and I have no quarrel. [Cheers.]

Sir, I of all men am specially entitled to be here. Having been in early life pledged to the cause of universal freedom; having been permitted to labor in that cause in reference to the 800,000 human beings who were enslaved in the islands of the West Indies; having seen the success of a faithful publication of the truth upon the question of Slavery in my own country, where, if we had not the same form of opposition, we had to contend with powerful interests and deep-rooted prejudices; I am bound to proclaim that truth wherever I happen for a time to be; but, most of all, in this country, where there is so much need of its being proclaimed—where there is so much to be accomplished by the preaching of the truth. [Applause.] In doing all this, allow me to say, that I think I am not making war upon any thing in this country worthy of being cherished, or which it would not benefit you to have removed or annihilated. It is the one stain upon the character of this great people. [Cheers.] It is the one hindrance that prevents the extension of their own political principles and institutions to other countries. It is the one argument in the mouths of those who would retard the march of the spirit of freedom, and desire to perpetuate the despotisms of the older world. It is the one impediment in the way of all those who are endeavoring to promote the cause of reform in England and other countries of Europe. [Hear, hear.] I therefore desire the extinction of your Slavery, not only for the sake of those who are held in bondage, but for the sake of the cause of liberty throughout the world. [Applause.] For never can you preach with any success, still less with any consistency, to the other nations of the earth, until you have utterly uprooted the institution of Slavery in your midst. [Applause.] I am happy to assure this audience that the people of England are with them in their great struggle. I am happy to assure you, that there is no question connected with this country that possesses the same degree of interest with us, as the question of American Slavery. [Cheers.]

Sir, I have yet to learn that any man has ever been persecuted, who has visited us from your land. That an American citizen has been driven out of an hotel, because he was such, or mobbed out of England's metropolis, for no other crime than that of lifting up his voice in advocacy of impartial liberty, I have yet to learn. I am glad to assure you, that any American may come to our country, and preach whatever he pleases. We can boast of this, at least, that every man, standing upon our soil, is at liberty to proclaim, in his own tongue, the opinions he entertains upon all public questions; and so long as he does not compass the life of 'her sacred majesty, the Queen,' he may descant and discourse as long as he pleases upon forms of government, and recommend to the entire people of England the establishment of a Republic as a much better form of government than a limited monarchy. He may go over the length and breadth of the land, proclaiming any doctrine he pleases, and I will guarantee that he will be safe—I will guarantee attentive audiences—I will guarantee personal safety for him, just as long as he choses to remain among us [Loud cheers.]

I am often reminded of evils in my own country which require to be corrected, and of oppressions in various parts of the world, committed by my own countrymen I stand not here to deny the existence of these evils, or to palliate those oppressions. God grant that they may soon cease. Let us have your aid in our efforts to expose them. Send us more men like Elihu Burritt, to rebuke the spirit of war, and proclaim the gospel of peace. Send us your missionaries from these favored shores, to preach among our people a purer political doctrine than that which at present obtains amongst us. Do not fear that such agents will be mobbed. So long as they come in the spirit of friendship and brotherhood, we will hear them gladly, and profit by their teachings. The feet of such men will be beautiful upon our mountains—they will be hailed as the messengers of good will, and the harbingers of 'a good time coming.'

We are proud too, of another feature connected with our national character, and that is, that amongst us, the fugitive slave finds an asylum. [Applause.] Send us your fugitive slaves! [Loud cheers,] They shall be safe against the confederate powers of Europe. [Cheers.] There they shall not be hunted; there they shall not have to conceal themselves; there they shall not have to stand upon their defence, night and day, with revolvers and bowie-knives! No warrant shall be issued by the Lord Mayor; under the shadow of St. Paul's Cathedral, they shall be secure and free; and we will, by cherishing them, seek to heap coals of fire upon the heads of those, who, by wicked laws, have driven them from the country of their birth. [Cheers.]

> 'Slaves cannot breathe in England: if their lungs
> Receive our air, that moment they are free.
> That's noble! and bespeaks a nation proud
> And jealous of the blessing.' (Cheers.)

Thank God, our theology has not yet become so corrupted as to be the refuge of the kidnapper, and the text-book of the man-thief. We still follow Moses—not the Moses of the New World, but the Moses of the Old World. (Great laughter and cheers.) The Moses that went in before Pharaoh, and said, 'Let my people go, that the may serve me.' The Moses that led the Hebrews *out* of Egypt. The Moses who, when he had landed an oppressed race on the safe side of the RED SEA, sung the song of triumph, and said—'The enemy said, I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil; my lust shall be satisfied upon them. Thou didst blow with thy wind, and the sea covered them; they sank as lead in the mighty waters.' We still follow Moses, who said—'Thou shalt not steal';—who said—'Thou shalt not deliver unto his master the servant that hath escaped from his master unto thee; he shall dwell with thee, even among you, in that place which he shall choose, in one of thy gates, where it liketh him best; thou shalt not oppress him.' We follow Moses and welcome the fugitive. He dwells where he choses in England, and requires no revolvers, no bowie-knives to defend him. No warrants are issued in Boston, Old England, for the arrest of runaway slaves—warrants are only granted, in such cases, for the arrest of those who would violate England's law by daring to lay ruffian hands upon the sacred persons of men and women created in the image of God, and 'endowed by their Creator with the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness' (Cheers.) We follow Christ as well as Moses. Don't mistake me. I am not speaking of the New England Moses. (Laughter.) The Moses we are in the habit of quoting, is not the living Hebrew of America, but Moses, the son-in-law of Jethro, the priest of Midian,—not the Moses of modern times, who trains young men to go down to Egypt, and preach pro-slavery to the Pharaohs of 1850, but the Moses who heard the voice of the great I AM, speaking from the burning bush, and saying, 'I have surely seen the affliction of my people, [illegible] thou mayest bring them forth out of Egypt.' We follow Christ as well as Moses. Christ, who, when he would sum up all the blessings of the covenant he came to establish, called it Liberty—'the glorious liberty of the sons of God.'

Mr. President, of this at least an Englishman may make his boast, that the Bible in England is not yet made the apologist of oppression. We have fought all our great battles with this precious book in our hands With the Bible we fought against the Slave Trade, and conqured. With the Bible we fought against Slavery, and conquered. With the Bible we encountered the embattled hosts of the bread taxers, and in that struggle, too, thanks to the Bible, we conquered. It was in the Bible we found the charter given to man in the beginning,—'Behold, I have given you *every* herb bearing seed on the face of *all the earth*, and every tree in which there is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for the hungry and toiling millions of your land, the right to partake of the yellow harvests of your own fertile prairies.' (Loud cheers.)

If I come to America to preach Anti-Slavery doctrines, I come not to preach those doctrines according to the Constitution of the United States, not according to the dogmas of the heads of colleges, not according to the opinions of State street here or Wall street there, not according to the teachings of any portion of the public press, but according to doctrines more ancient, more pure, more sacred, more universal, more immutable—a doctrine divine and eternal—the doctrine that man has a right to himself, and has no master on earth, no father but his God in heaven! (Great cheers.) And in doing so, I do not consider myself an alien; yet I have no objection to be thought so, especially if it give me a little prominence, and larger audiences than I should obtain if left to my own native insignificance. (Cheers,) If they will decorate me with these extrinsic adornments, I cannot help it. I am sure my *expressive silence* in Faneuil Hall was incalculably more eloquent than any speech I could have read or delivered. (Great cheers.) Little did those rioters think that their genuflexions were doing infinitely more for the cause than I could have done, had they allowed me to receive the greeting my friends intended to give me, and permitted me to blow my ram's horn under the walls of their Jericho! (Laughter and cheers.)

My friends, I confess to an utter absence of the feeling myself. I have taken many Americans by the hand in England, and have never for a moment thought that they were less free there than in their own land. (Cheers.) Is it now come to this, that a man must leave, in the little cabin in which he has been confined in crossing the Atlantic, all his nobility, his independence, his free speech, and not resume them till on his way back to his own country on the same free ocean? Sir, I did not leave my manhood in my cabin! (Loud cheers.)—Nor my free speech there! Of course, I did not undertake to contend with one voice against a hundred and fifty. Order is Heaven's first law, and we must hope for a 'better time coming.' (Applause.)

You will, perhaps, ask me what I think of things in Old Massachusetts. I confess I am of opinion, that you have made the most gratifying progress. I think the cause is going on uncommonly well. Perhaps not as well as our sympathies for the slave could desire, but as well as, under all the circumstances, could be rationally expected. I can go back to the era of 1835, and recall to my mind's eye a very different state of things from that which now I witness, on this my second visit.

I am convinced it is either insanity on the one hand, or a lustful desire of power on the other, that any man claiming the smallest amount of common sense, or possessed of any honesty of purpose, should promulgate the idea that any stop can be put to the progress of the Anti-Slavery principles in this country. Why, Sir could those who represent those principles be stopped, as they cannot be, would the Anti-Slavery cause perish with them? Is that cause bound up in my beloved friend, Mr. Garrison? It may have commenced with him, it may owe its first impulse to him; but it has outgrown him; it depends not now upon him; he has multiplied himself so much that his name is legion.—(Cheers) The cause needs nothing but its own power to keep it moving, until the last slave that groans under the rod of the tyrant in this country shall be made a free man. I came over amongst you to rejoice in your success, and to share in your labors. I am compelled to stay here to test this question of freedom of speech. I do not know that I have much to do in this country beyond enjoying myself, and gazing upon such inspiring spectacles as that which is now before me.—Depend upon this—I go not hence a second time by persecution. [Cheers.] I came freely, I will depart freely. I came this time uninvited: that is, I invited myself, and accepted the invitation. [Laughter.] Freely as I came, so freely will I go. I shall not at all regret, if, towards my person for the time being, be directed all the displeasures which my friends have so long monopolized amongst themselves. [Loud cheers.]

You may be disposed to ask me, what I think of the prospects that are before you. I think they are all you can desire! [Cheers] Your first and most obvious duty is, to look at the state of public opinion in your own Commonwealth. The elements of Anti-Slavery feeling in this State are most active and vigorous; still, from certain symptoms that I see around you, your work is not yet all done at home. I look at the state of your public press, and I deliberately declare, that the statements made with reference to all the circumstances connected with the Faneuil Hall meeting were in nine out of ten cases *absolutely and utterly false*.—[Loud cheers.] This is a state of things that indicates depravity some where. Not the depravity of the newspaper proprieters and editors alone—still less of those ready writers, some of whom may be recording what I am uttering at this moment. Who are the writers for these papers? and who are their admirers? and who are those who sustain them? Popular favor is the breath in their nostrils, without which they would expire, or they would become truthful and honest. While I see the city of Boston deluged every morning with prints whose teachings are as far from truth as heaven from hell, you have something to do at home. [Cheers.] See what your press is doing in our country. It is retarding the progress of reform, and deadening the affect of moral progress. If it can be done, starve it into virtue [Loud cheers.] If you cannot have an honest press, do without it! [Cheers.] In our country, there is a diversity of opinions; but I defy the bitterest of England's reviewers to say of her press, that the reports of public meetings they give are not truthful, I defy him to point me to a single Boston paper, not emanating from an Anti-Slavery source, which has given a true version of the Faneuil Hall meeting. [Applause.]

I do trust, for the sake of your national character, that the time is not far distant when the men who can instigate a deluded mob to go and deprive any body of men of the right of free speech, will be adjudged to universal infamy, as unworthy of the name of which you should be proud, that of Republican Americans. (Immense cheers,)

It may be said, 'You do not understand the Constitution!' Well, perhaps I do not; but I am quite ready to compare notes with anybody who will take the platform with me, even in this country. But if you are determined upon mobbing me he here, I can only say, I will give any opponent a cordial welcome on the other side of the Atlantic (Cheers.)

My friends, we are engaged in a great moral movement. The question is to be settled by the formation of a sound and healthy public opinion. Did I not take this view of the subject, I should not have been among you fifteen years since, in unwavering faith in the omnipotence of truth—I should not be standing here today. (Cheers.) The evidences are many and convincing, that we have but to proclaim the truth, to obtain the assent to it of all impartial minds—to unite men and women together in one great effort for the overthrow of this national evil. (Cheers.) We have every encouragement to proceed. Laws are to be altered, institutions to be shaped and remodelled, according to the prevalent and irresistible public opinion of the day. Let me conjure you, then, before I sit down, to stand by this cause, and to be encouraged by the triumphs you have already achieved in it, to further and increased efforts on its behalf. You have only to look around you, to see everywhere the effects which have followed the promulgation of these doctrines. It has rid the West India Islands of their curse! It has abolished the slave trade between Africa and many countries of the earth! It has purified your own Commonwealth, to a great extent, and made it hallowed ground, on which the fugitive can stand and be safe! If you go forward with this cause, it must triumph, and I trust that, without violence, without disruption, there will be a peaceful extinction of slavery throughout the whole country. (Loud applause.) I rejoice that the intellect of your country has been gained to your cause, Talent and genius of the highest order have been enlisted on the side of the slave in this land. (Applause.) The poets of your country are with you; it cannot be otherwise. The poet cannot plead for slavery. The Whittiers, and Bryants, and Lowells of your country have consecrated their lyres to the cause of universal freedom. (Applause.) The language of the minstrel is—

> 'No chain shall sully thee
> Thou soul of love and bravery;
> Thy songs were made for the bold and free,
> And they never shall sound in Slavery.'

I am glad your theology is undergoing a gradual purification. (Cheers.) It will be a glorious time for America, when the Bible shall no longer be taken in defence of a principle which has been cursed in the law, and not blessed in the gospel! (Great applause.) When truth in the North shall be prized more than the patronage of the South! When the sinful and fiendlike principles of Slavery shall no longer be infused into trusting, unsophisticated souls! When you have better teachings in your theological institutions!—When the pulpit becomes faithful to its trust!—(Loud cheers.) O, it will be a majestic spectacle, when, forgetting all prejudices, we shall unite all that is elevated in intellect, all that is sound in heart, all that is generous in soul, to aid the cause of abolition.—(Cheers) I cannot but look forward to the day when, through the efforts of these friends of freedom, the flame shall spread from the banks of the St. Lawrence to the farthest limits of California, and the slaves of your country be delivered from the house of their bondage! (Loud cheering.)

I thank you most kindly for your patience to me on this occasion. I can only say that I shall bear with me from Worcester an ineffaceable recollection of your kind reception; and if, here and there, I shall meet with a solitary individual disposed to quarrel with me for the plainness with which I have declared my sentiments, I will remember Worcester—that there if I spoke frankly, I was heard kindly; and though I took upon myself to denounce an institution as strongly entrenched as Slavery is on the American soil, I was not considered an enemy to the true glory of the country. (Tremendous cheering.)

National Anti-Slavery Standard.

Without Concealment....Without Compromise.

NEW YORK: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1850

THE SLAVE-CATCHING MEETINGS.

Blessed are we who live in an age of Tests! Those well-abused alchemists, the Abolitionists, have been for twenty years busy in concocting a touchstone—more precious than the philosopher's stone itself—which should separate the precious from the vile, the fine gold from the dross. As the adepts of the middle ages were cheered in the gloom of their laboratories by the golden hope and faith of extorting from the spirits of the mine the boundless wealth, or the eternal life and everlasting youth which was to reward their labors, but without a distinct conception of the shape in which success would issue from their alembics; so we have been working upon the crude ores about us in the full faith that we should at last create a public sentiment which would help to do our pleasure in part at first, and then in full; but we could not anticipate the specific form which the new agent would assume. But the projection at last begins to work and to take shape unto itself. The effervescence which we have caused in men's minds, North and South, has thrown to the surface of the cauldron the abominable scum of the Fugitive Slave Law, and this poisonous froth it is that is to help heal the disease under which the nation sickens. As the ruffian of the Spanish Picaresque novel distinguishes between his genuine comrades and the officials of the Holy Brotherhood that mixed with them in disguise, by the effect which the blood mixed with the wine of their carousal had upon them; so the Southern banditti have been compelled to commend a chalice to the lips of the Northern people which will serve to distinguish their willing accomplices from their righteous enemies. It comes as a Test, and we gladly accept it as such.

But it is a strange spectacle which its application creates for us to look upon. To catch Slaves or not to catch Slaves is the great question which now distracts the Northern mind. A new definition of patriotism has been elaborated by learned lawyers, and blessed by reverend divines, which makes it identical with catching slaves! Law and Gospel are made to bend to this new Exposition of Civil Duty, and treason and infidelity are the least of the hard words which the recusants and heretics who refuse to accept it have to expect. Solemn Meetings have been held in New York, Philadelphia and Boston, and some other lesser places, to promulgate this new Dispensation. Its apostles have displayed the most martyrly spirit, and are clearly ready to be offered up, by *proxy*, be it always understood. The resignation which they display to the sufferings of the poor fugitives who are to experience the scourge, the chain, the stake, of this new persecution, is truly admirable. For the sake of being comfortable and safe themselves, in consideration of their own business and quiet, they are content to do "with alacrity" what the Grand Turk thought it scorn to think of. Statesmen and jurists are content to teach that the great practical result which crowned the American Revolution, as far as we are concerned, is the privilege of catching our fellow-slaves for our masters at the South, and of being governed, insulted and kicked by them as our share in the benefits of the Glorious Union in return. And Doctors of various shades of Divinity (some of them very dark shades) agree, if in nothing else, in declaring that this is indeed the House of God and the gate of Heaven! that the straight and narrow way which is to conduct American Christians to the Celestial City is that in which they can best pursue a miserable flying wretch to thrust him down to an earthly hell!

These Slave-catching Meetings are, indeed, a most characteristic feature of our country and time. They have many meanings, and are susceptible of much edifying Improvement. They show how extensively the contamination of Slavery has debauched and depraved the moral constitution of the North; how it has eaten out the heart of the people, extinguished the old spirit of liberty, and heathenized the religious spirit which was once the glory of New England, and widely characterized the North. The idea that there can be any law of higher obligation than that which men make for themselves is scouted at by Chief Priest as well as Chief Ruler. Though the absurdity of *re-enacting* the Laws of God for the purpose of excluding Slavery from a portion of our Southern territory is loudly and exultingly maintained; yet, the very same men see nothing incongruous in *repealing* the laws of God, natural and revealed, and preaching that it is only by their repeal that our national prosperity and existence can endure! They teach that him that escapeth from his master unto us *shall* be returned unto his master, and shall *not* dwell amongst us wherever he will; that we shall *not* do unto others as we would they should do unto us; that all men are *not* created free and equal, and are *not* entitled to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; and that the reception and reduction to practice of these doctrines are essential to our happiness and stability as a people! And Doctors in Divinity, in New York and Boston, and elsewhere, say Amen. These new Titans propose to pull down the everlasting God from the throne of the Universe, and, setting up in his stead a parchment sixty years old, with a codicil of six months, call upon all the people to bow down and worship it! There is no God but the Constitution, and Daniel is its Prophet! The excellent *jeu d'esprit* in the *Tribune* last week, with a slight modification, would be no burlesque of these meetings at all. It was not the preservation of the law of physical Gravitation that those meetings have had in view, but the successful enforcement of a Repeal of the law of moral Gravitation made sixty years since, and the accommodation of all our arrangements to this new state of things. They have enacted that heavy bodies that have gravitated to the earth shall fly towards the Sun, and that it is the duty of all good citizens and Christians to help heave them up. But can they succeed? Verily, "He that sitteth in the Heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision!"

There is nothing but the open, gross and palpable wickedness of these Meetings, and the doctrines set forth at them by solemn-faced lawyers, and sanctified by their reverend accomplices, which saves them from the domain of utter contempt and inextinguishable laughter. The laws of man over-riding the laws of God! The voice of nature, reason and revelation silenced by the impudent exactions of Slaveholding bullies! The salvation of a great Nation dependent on the conversion of honest men into bloodhounds! And then the cool assurance of the divines who accept the Gospel according to Daniel Webster in reviving doctrines which have slept for a century and a half—of the Republican Vicars of Bray who preach unconditional submission to tyrants and wicked laws! To whom

> "Passive obedience is a jest,
> And pshaw! is non-resistance!"

More abject sycophants of the ruling powers, more obsequious panders to the worst and meanest passions of the wickedness that is in high places, never wore lawn or rochet under the first or the second James. As now expounded by jurists (or at least practising lawyers), and by theologians (or at least men tolerated in pulpits), the civil and religious duties of American citizens may be summed up in the all-comprehending virtue of catching slaves! This, not only in the last analysis, but upon the most cursory glance on the surface, is the object sought to be gained by these assemblies for the public worship of the Deity of the American Republic. We are quite confident that many humane men who signed the Requisitions for those Meetings, and perhaps actually attended them, were induced to do so by false representations or mistaken impressions as to their character and purposes; but tried by the resolutions passed and the speeches made at them, their "being's end and aim," their beginning, middle and end, was to crown slave-catching as a sovereign duty, and to canonize it as a cardinal virtue.

Now what is to be the effect of these vaporing demonstrations? Is there such divine force in their arguments or their appeals as to extinguish the natural sense of justice and humanity which lives in every soul that is not crushed by cotton or stifled by sugar?—Do they even represent the public sentiment of the very cities where they are held? They may stand for the conscience and the heart of Wall Street and of State Street (though we do not believe it); but that there is a strong counter-current of principle and feeling setting in the opposite direction is proved by the very fact that these Meetings are thought necessary. The truth is that there are some laws which are so repugnant to the opinion and the feeling of the communities to which they apply that their regular execution is impossible, and this is of them. Men under the pressure of logical consistency, or of immediate personal or political advantage, may contrive an occasional instance of conformity with it; but no law that does not express the sense of the people to whom it applies can be otherwise than generally nugatory. There are laws in almost all countries against duelling, by which the survivor of a duel is obnoxious to the doom of a murderer. But has there ever been an instance of these laws being executed, in the case of a fair fight? When stealing a larger amount than forty shillings was a capital offence in England, it was seldom that a jury found the value of any quantity of plate and jewelry to exceed that sum. And in the Southern States, themselves, as a homage to which these Meetings are intended, how is it there? There is a certain constitutional provision securing to the citizens of every State the rights of citizenship in every other; but the state of public sentiment there will not permit the execution of this provision as to Northern citizens of a certain complexion of skin or of a certain complexion of opinions. Not to mention the notorious case of our cooks and stewards, how was it with Messrs. Hoar and Hubbard and more recently, if the papers do not lie, with the Hon. Truman Smith? There it is a penitentiary offence to bring an action for a certain purpose in the National Courts, and a man suspected of believing in the Declaration and the Gospel is warned out of Charleston as dangerous to the peace of Society.

Now civil government goes on in its ordinary functions, notwithstanding the refusal of juries and other authorities to execute the rigor of the laws against duelling and larceny. And we are sure what is called the Union has survived all these outrages on Northern liberty by Southern Slavery. Not a breath was ventured at any of these loyal meetings, suggesting that there was any observance due to any clause of the constitution but the slave catching one. The doctrine that the king can do no wrong was most loyally recognized. But, this being the case, why may not the Union last a little longer (supposing it to be worth anything) even if a state of opinion should exist here which should make it uncomfortable for slaveholders to extend their perquisitions into Massachusetts, or Central New York or Northern Ohio? At any rate, we think it will have to last on these terms or come to a speedy end. That the present indisposition to see those laws put in force will grow less we cannot promise the most constitutional or the most devout of their admirers. That a few slaves the more (though we hope not) may be caught, that a few more Anti-Slavery meetings may be broken up by mobs, that some lovers of liberty may have to suffer in prison and in property, is not unlikely. But that the opinions of men are to be changed and that the North is to be transformed by an instantaneous conversion into a race of men-thieves we doubt. We think it is beyond the power of the most unanimous vote of Castle Garden or Faneuil Hall to do this. We even question their potency to put down discussion and stifle agitation. With the assistance they have given it we think agitation will live and grow awhile longer.—They do not know, perhaps, that such material as they have furnished us is the very stuff we incendiaries delight in. They may, perhaps answer their real purpose and make a new slave-catching party out of the rottenest parts of the old parties, which will *refuse* (they may rely upon *that!*) to nominate Mr. Webster for the next Presidency; this may (though it is not likely) cheat the South into a belief that they mean something more than this; but they may depend upon it that they represent the smaller number as well as the baser sort of the Northern people.—E. Q.

DIARY OF MR. HUGHES.

Mr. Hughes, the Slave-hunter, has added his testimony to that of his coadjutor, Knight, as to the difficulties and obstacles which stand in the way of even the most determined and zealous sportsman who makes man his game in Boston. He gives in the *Georgia Constitutionalist* a statement, which we copy, of his experiences in that city, confirming that of Knight, but going more minutely, as we hoped he would, into detail, than his companion ventured, or perhaps, was able to do. Another difference between the two is strikingly apparent; this 'Southern brother' is not nearly so good-tempered and easy-going as he whose statement we published last week. We see all through this account the spirit of the baffled turnkey—the irritability of a jailor whose habitual surliness is not often ruffled by any interference on the part of anybody with the course of his official duty. But who can wonder at it? To say nothing of the aggravation it must be to the patriotic feelings of a Southron to see "niggers and abolitionists" walking boldly and openly about the streets, carrying on things pretty much their own way, when, if he only had them South, he would skin the first alive with his whip, and hang the others on the nearest tree,—to say nothing of this dreadfully aggravating state of things, how exceedingly painful must it have been to Mr. Hughes, a warm lover of the Union, to find that when he only asked for the fulfillment of its compromises, its loudest friends, and those most ready to avow their determination to perform their Constitutional duties, and to rejoice at being recalled to a sense of them, were the first to shrink from extending to him that aid which they are sworn to give, and which they swear they like to render. Had it been our province to advise Mr. Hughes as to whom he should call upon in Boston to aid him in the very difficult and unpopular work of capturing two such persons as William and Ellen Crafts, we should have picked out of the whole city as the most fit and ready for such business three of the very men whose assistance he sought, namely: Messrs. Curtis, Lunt, and Hallett. The first has been for a dozen years the champion of the supremacy of slaveholding and slave-catching law in Massachusetts, having come forward first in that capacity in the Latimer case, and would rejoice, so we should have reasoned, in an opportunity to carry his principles into practice; the second has been even longer distinguished as an admirer and humble servant of Southern institutions—for which in his District Attorneyship he is at length rewarded—and proved his faith some fifteen or sixteen years ago by publicly insulting, as Chairman of a Legislative Committee, a man so universally respected and beloved as the late Dr. Follen; and the third, we know, never balked at anything yet, and would catch a slave, join a Church, follow a new party, or betray an old one with equal alacrity, provided always that B. F. Hallett was sure to make anything by it; where, we should have said, could better (or worse) men be found for such a deed? And Mr. Hughes, we think, must have known from some source, the previous history of these men, and knew that he could not do better than to follow their advice to go from one to the other. In his choice of an Attorney, too, he seems to have been equally well guided, for no one who remembers the Chardon Street Chapel Meetings of ten or eleven years ago can have forgotten the hang-dog look, and speeches to match of this same Seth J. Thomas.

But how bitterly must poor brother Hughes have been disappointed in all these men, excepting Thomas, and how deeply he must have cursed this Northern pretension to alacrity in Constitutional duties, but the unequivocal backwardness when called upon to put the preaching into practise. The spirits of these men were willing enough, but the flesh was weak; they could not, however warmly they sympathized with their Southern brother, screw their courage up to the point of facing the indignation of their fellow-citizens in assisting him. Nevertheless two of these very men, Curtis and Hallett, had the impudence to appear at the Union Meeting last week, at Faneuil Hall, called to uphold this very law which they were so reluctant in assisting Hughes to execute! What will he—or what rather will the South say to that?

However we are keeping the reader from Mr. Hughes' confessions. It is thus introduced by the *Constitutionalist:*

Our fellow-citizen, Mr. Willis H. Hughes, has just returned from his unsuccessful effort to recapture the fugitive slaves from this city; and below will be found the statement of the attending circumstances. We are assured by Mr. Hughes that the difficulties and dangers which attend all efforts of this character are absolutely incredible, and the indignation, abuse, and injustice heaped upon him, have no parallel in this Government, and that he, a free-born citizen, did not receive either the courtesy and legal protection extended to the poorest slave in Georgia. But we have no time for comments. His statement will speak for itself. Read, ponder, and digest it, citizens of Georgia:

MR. HUGHES' STATMENT.

I arrived in Boston on Saturday, the 19th of October, and kept concealed in my room until Monday, the 21st. During this time I ascertained that Bill and Ellen had not left Boston, as had been reported. I then called to see Mr. Shewers, an attorney to whom I had a letter from Mr. Fay of Savannah. He was absent from town, and I did not see him. On the next day I called on Judge Levi Woodbury, and stated that I wanted a warrant for the arrest of two fugitive slaves. He stated that he was not the proper person to issue it. I asked him to tell me who was the proper person to issue such warrants. He stated he would recommend me to go to Mr. Lunt, United States District Attorney. I called on Mr. Lunt, who stated that he had agreed to take a case of this kind before, and that it was an unpleasant business, and created a good deal of excitement, and he would not take another case of this kind. I am inclined to think this statement of Mr. Lunt a mere pretext to evade responsibility. I was unable to learn that there was any such case ever in existence. I asked him to inform me who was the proper person to apply to. He recommended me to Mr. Benjamin F. Hallett, United States Commissioner. I called at Mr. H.'s office, and he was not at home. I then called, at 11 o'clock at night, at his residence, and stated to him my business, and asked him for a warrant, saying that if I could get a warrant I could have the negroes arrested. He said the law did not authorize a warrant to be issued; that it was my duty to go and arrest the negro without a warrant and bring him before him. I stated to him that this was requiring an impossibility under the state of things, and that that was not my construction of the law, and showed him a copy of the law.

After looking at the law, he said he would consider of it, and give me an answer next morning at nine o'clock. I applied next morning at nine o'clock. He then stated he had considered of it, and that it was not his business to advise me what course to take; but if I would make out my charges in a legal form, and come before him, he would hear me. I then went to Mr. Thayer, a merchant, to whom I had a letter; I told Mr. Thayer I wanted an attorney. He got a friend, who went to see Mr. Seth J. Thomas, an attorney, who agreed to take charge of the case. Mr. Thomas was engaged, and called on Judge Sprague for a warrant. This Judge equivocated and shuffled like the others had done. He then called on Mr. Curtis, a United States Commissioner; he wanted time, like the others, to consider, and requested us to call at four o'clock, P. M., which we did, and he then stated that they had agreed to have a meeting of the six commissioners and the two judges—namely, Woodbury and Sprague—that night. They held that meeting, and decided that the Judges should hear my complaint next morning in chambers. I was then required to go into court and make my complaint, when they ordered the warrant to be issued in open court, which the clerk did. By this time, it was known all over Boston that the warrant was issued, and who for, and who applied for it. About the time the warrant was issued, a man, apparently of respectability and influence, was on a dry goods box, speaking to a crowd, advising the negroes and their friends to arm themselves with bowie-knives, pistols and dirks, and resist the law unto death; that if it was a law of the United States, it was in direct violation of the law of God, and ought to be resisted at all hazards, and advised them to shoot down slave-catchers from the South.

The warrant was then placed in the marshal's hands. I told him I was ready to go and point out the negroes to him. He said that there was a question whether he could break the door of Bill's shop, where he understood he was locked up. He took the balance of that day to settle that question. I called the next morning, and told him I was again ready to go. He then said it was reported that Bill (whom he called Mr. Crafts) had left town, and he had a man on the look-out, and we must wait for him to report. I also had a man on the same business. I called on the marshal again in the afternoon. He said his man reported that Bill was not there. I then stated thet my man reported that Bill was there. He said my man was mistaken—for his man was reliable, and could not be mistaken.

The next day my attorney went to see the marshal, who stated to him that he was ready to go with me alone. I immediately went to him, and proposed to proceed at once. He then said it was a difficult matter and he would have to get a large force—some twenty or thirty men. He had made this same excuse before. At dinner-time this day—my eighth day in Boston—Mr. Knight and myself were both arrested under a bail writ, in the penalty of $10,000, for slandering Crafts, alleging that we had charged him with stealing his body and clothes. This consumed the balance of this day.

On the Monday following we were both again arrested, under bail of $10,000 each, for damaging "one William Crafts" in his business. The excitement kept increasing. We were then carried to the sheriff's office. By the time we gave bond, the sidewalks and streets were crowded with abolitionists, negroes, &c. The account given of the carriage scene from the sheriff's office is, as given by the Chronotype, Daily Mail, Post, and Journal of that city, correct. We then went to the hotel to tea. About tea-time we were both again arrested for slandering Ellen Crafts, and held to bail in $20,000 each.

When arrested, the sheriff told me I must go with him to his office and give bond. I told him I could give bond at my hotel by sending for my securities; that if I went to his office it would collect the mob again, and they had already insulted me as much as I could bear, and I wanted to avoid a recurrence of similar contacts. The sheriff, however, still peristed, and required me to go. We started, but soon met my lawyer, who said that one of my securities was on his way, and told the sheriff that we should not go to his office, as the bond could be given sooner by not going. The bond was then given for $20,000.

The next day I learned that the mob had collected the night before at the sheriff's office, as I had supposed, and that among other things said and done there, while they were on the look-out for me, a negro was there on horseback, charging and swearing that he would be the first man to shoot Hughes when he made his appearance. On the same day I went to see the marshal, to know if he had got further information. He said he had not.

My attorney then advised me to go to New York for a few days, for the purpose of allaying the excitement, which had become too furious, he thought, to admit of any success. I prepared to leave that evening, which becoming public, a large crowd collected at my hotel for the purpose of insulting me. I therefore concluded not to go that evening. Before six o'clock next morning when I expected to leave, they were around the house again in great numbers, with the Rev. Theodore Parker at their head, knocking for admittance at my door. I admitted Mr. Parker. He said he had come to give me a piece of friendly advice—that he had kept the mob off of me for two days, and was afraid he could not do it any longer. I told him that I understood he was a minister of the Gospel and a great advocate of morals—in favor of people obeying the laws—but was sorry to find myself mistaken, and wanted him to leave—that I was not going to leave under any such threats and that I was determined not to go then. The crowd dispersed shortly afterwards, and, after transacting some business, I left at two o'clock, P. M, for New York.

After being in New York for several days, I learned that Bill and Ellen had positively left for England.

There were five warrants (besides the cases named) issued against me, all for the purpose of harassing me and driving me away: "one for "smoking in the streets," one for "swearing in the streets," (which was not the fact;) one for "carrying concealed weapons;" one for "driving fast through the streets;" and another for "passing Cambridge bridge without paying toll;" (which was not true.)

So far as I had any dealing with those who thus endeavored to obstruct the law and harass me, or had a chance of ascertaining their position, I would say that they were of the highest standing, socially and politically, in the community. As an instance, Francis Jackson, who refused to take Knight's hand, was a candidate for Congress; Mr. Charles Sumner, one of the United States commissioners; Rev. Theodore Parker; Mr. List, an eminent lawyer; Dr. Hanson; Rev. Dr. Channing; Mr. Charles Bowditch; and others, who interested themselves in preventing us from arresting Crafts, are all Abolitionists. As to the friends we met in Boston, I want to say I found Mr. Hamilton Willis (a broker) a true friend, and feel under many obligations to him. There were also Mr. Thayer; Mr. Thomas, my Attorney; Mr. Patrick Riley, one of the deputy marshals; Mr. D. Draper; Mr. Freeman, a deputy sheriff; the proprietors of the United States Hotel, their clerks and servants; and a Mr. Ladd. To all these gentlemen I am under great obligation for their kindness.

In reference to the abolition sentiment in Boston, I would state this circumstance: All the time the excitement was going on with me, there was no protection of the city authorities offered me, and none turned out in my favor. But when George Thompson, the English abolition lecturer was expected, and a meeting was announced to receive him, it was rumored that a mob might assemble on his reception, and the mayor instantly ordered out the city officers to attend and suppress any mob—showing that the city authorities were disposed to give protection to an Abolitionist, which they had withheld from me while engaged in my lawful business; and my opinion is, if we had succeeded in arresting the negroes, they would have been rescued by the citizens.

In conclusion, to give a full history of my visit to Boston would occupy too much time and patience. I will, therefore, conclude by saying that I went to Boston as an agent to execute a lawful trust, thinking I should be protected and assisted by the laws of my country. But, on the contrary, from the first, the laws of the country, instead of proving a protection, were made an engine of cruelty, oppression, injustice and abuse: so that my life was constantly endangered: and this without the first offer of assistance from government—national, state, or city. I feel that every man who has a Southern heart in his bosom, and would maintain the honor of his country, should sustain the Southern-rights cause by every constitutional measure, until our rights are acknowledged and justice obtained.

WILLIS H. HUGHES.

Macon, Nov. 21, 1840.

THE NASHVILLE CONVENTION.

Whatever Disunion feeling there may be at the South the late Nashville Convention seems to have failed to embody it. Judging from the tone of the meeting and of Southern papers in regard to it, that Convention certainly does not threaten any speedy dissolution of the national bonds, nevertheless we place its resolutions on record in our columns for future reference, for whether they may be considered the germ of a future Dissolution movement at the South or not, such a movement is not yet altogether impossible, notwithstanding the Union Meetings in Boston, New York, and Philadelphia.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolved, That we have ever cherished, and do now cherish, a cordial attachment to the Union, which the Constitution of the United States created; and that to preserve and transmit such a Union, this convention originated and is now assembled.

Resolved, That the Union of these States is a Union of equal and independent sovereignties; and that the exercise of powers delegated to the General Government can be resumed by the several States, whenever it may seem to them to be proper and necessary.

Resolved, That we deem it unnecessary to notice the various acts of agression inflicted on the South. A simple reference to the wrongs perpetrated since the first meeting of this Convention will suffice; and they are:

1. The failure to extend the line of thirty-six degrees thirty minutes, north latitude to the Pacific Ocean.
2. The admission of California as a State.
3. The organization of Territorial Governments for Utah and New Mexico, without adequate protection to the property of the South.
4. The dismemberment of Texas.
5. The abolition of the slave trade in the District of Columbia.

Upon these facts, we solemnly adjure the people of the South to unite in one concentrated effort to save the Union and the Constitution. We recommend to them to go into *Convention*, and each State to determine her position on the questions and exigencies of the crisis.

With the northern majority, and the Federal Government fatally determined upon the destuction of the institution on which our existence depends, we have nothing to hope save only from our own unity, resources and strength. When these shall have been exhibited, possibly the North may recede. The unity of the South may save the Union of the States.

Resolved, That in view of the aggressions and outrages inflicted upon the South and those threatened and impending, we recommend that each of the Southern States, in the mode she may adopt, do appoint delegates to a general convention of all the assailed States, to be held at ——, on —— day of ——, clothed with full authority to deliberate and act with all the sovereign power of the people, with the view of arresting further aggression and restoring the constitutional rights of the South—if possible—and if not, then to provide for the safety and independence of the South in the last resort.

Resolved, That we urge, as a defensive course, forced upon us by our assailants, and as not only unavoidable but essentially just, that the southern people do immediately adopt the following preventive measures:

1. That every county, district, parish, or other civil divison of each of the assailed States, do hold a primary meeting and form a society or association to adopt and effectuate any and all lawful measures and means, whereby the resources of the South shall be employed toward domestic manufactures and internal improvements, and whereby all social, commercial and political intercourse between the South and the North shall be wholly suspended, until the North shall become prepared to concede and guaranty to the South the full measure of her constitutional rights.

2. That such local societies do appoint and empower committees of vigilance and safety; each to exert observation over its locality in respect to incendiaries and incendiary publications, pamphlets and papers: to bring such incendiaries, or disseminators of such productions to public justice; and to act generally as policemen in respect to the assailed institution of the South.

3. That it is incumbent upon the southern people to build up southern institutions and foster southern literature, by giving all possible preference to them. Especially we would discourage the expenditure of large sums by our citizens in their towns to the north and and east preferring not to favor those who return our gratuities by wrong and insult.

4. Resolved, That we earnestly recommend to all parties in every State in the South to refuse to go into, or countenance, any National Convention, whose object may be to nominate candidates for the Presidency and Vice Presidency of the United States, under any party denomination whatsoever until our constitutional rights are secured.

Communications.

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE RHODE ISLAND STATE ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

The past year has been an eventful year. No previous year has witnessed so much deep, earnest feeling on the subject of Slavery. It has been, too, a year of action, as well as of excitement and feeling—action both for and against the cause this Society advocates and loves. It falls within our province at this time to describe briefly the movements, Anti-Slavery-wise, in this State since the last Annual Meeting, and the present condition and prospects of the cause.

A course of Anti-Slavery Lectures has been given in Providence, by the Rev. Samuel R. Ward, of N. York. Occasional lectures have also been given by Messrs. C. C. Burleigh, William Lloyd Garrison, and others. Meetings have also been held in other parts of the State. The lectures and meetings were of much interest and well attended.

The Anti-Slavery Office has been removed from its former location, corner of Broad and Dorance streets, to No. 18 Eddy street, directly in the rear of Messrs. Janes & Lewis' Hardware Store, on Broad street. The present Rooms are but a few steps West of the old office—are more commodious and retired, and have been rented for three years, upon the same conditions as the former. Much interest has been manifested by numerous friends, in fitting up the new rooms. Thanks to them! A continuance of their kind regard is solicited, that these rooms may long be kept open as a resort to the weary fugitive, and a depot of Anti-Slavery intelligence.

The Society has been aided very materially by Fairs, held in Providence and Pawtucket.

While individuals, in various places, have contributed with praiseworthy liberality to the Society's Treasury, the efforts of Pawtucket friends are deserving of special commendation. They have given $160 the past year towards the expenses of the Office. This, beside all the meetings that have been held, and other efforts in their own place. For their encouragement, be it said, their aid has been received with grateful hearts, and that we shall be very inexpressibly happy to experience a little more treatment of the same sort. Their contributions are doubly welcome—first, they afford an indisputable assurance that their hearts are with us in the work of the slave's redemption; secondly, inasmuch as they are the products of self-denying and laborious effort, we are assured that their philanthropy is heartfelt and truly disinterested. The slave blesses them, and God rewards them.

The expressions of kindness and confidence bestowed on us the past year are too numerous to mention. In past time, it has been very difficult for us to obtain any one of the public halls for our gatherings. Now they are *all* open. In time past, the public prints of the City either passed by our meetings and proceedings without notice, or only noticed to sneer. *Now*, nearly all notice us favorably, and often with commendation. So we see that the times in Rhode Island are rather Websterian in their character, inasmuch as they are given to change. And again, not Websterian, as they change from *worse* to *better*.

The Executive Committee has been invaded by death during the past year. An excellent man, and sterling Abolitionist, Alexander Lake, is with us no more on earth. May we gather from this afflictive dispensation an admonition to work and be faithful to our trust, so that at our last hour our labors shall be finished, and we shall have nothing to do but die.

The financial affairs of the Society are as last year, with the exception of a small debt incurred by removing the Office.

An odious, disgraceful and inhuman "Act"—it is not a law—providing for the arrest and return of fugitive slaves, has been passed by Congress, and approved by the President of the United States. Soon after the promulgation of the enactment, the Executive Committee adopted and published, on the Society's behalf, the following Ressolutions:

Resolved, That the Fugitive Slave Bill, which has now become the law of the land, is a mere arbitray enactment, utterly unworthy our support, being wanting in the great element of *Justice*, which alone gives validity to Law, because it sets at naught the long and well settled principles of the Common Law—because it suspends the Writ of Habeas Corpus and destroys the right of trial by Jury—because it seeks to destroy and not to secure the rights of man, and is, therefore, contrary to the Constitution of these United States, and to the Bill of Rights of every State in this Union—because it belongs to that class of laws promulgated by Despots for despotic purposes only—a disgrace to the age in which we live—an attempt to "frame injustice into a law," and worthy only of the execration and the prompt disobedience of a community claiming any pretension to civilization or the least regard for the God-given rights of man.

Resolved, That, disregarding entirely the heavy penalties imposed by this odious law, we believe it to be our duty to secrete the fugitive, to afford him all facilities of escape, and in case of arrest to do all in our power to promote his release.

Resolved, That while the people of New England have ever been distinguished for their law-abiding character, and their readiness to render efficient support to all good and wholesome laws, we feel assured they will never consent to see the humblest individual claiming their protection, deprived of his rights and hurried into bondage, by the force of an arbitrary enactment, and in utter derogation of all their long cherished principles of civil Liberty.

Resolved, That such is the state of feeling in this, as well as in other Northern States, that any attempt on the part, either of the slave claimant or of the Federal Officers, to execute this arbitrary law, will, in our opinion, be met by the fugitives themselves, and by all good citizens, without distinction of caste or color, with the most determined resistance.

Resolved, That the force of public opinion in New England will, in our opinion, render this odious Law entirely inoperative throughout her borders; but, in case any further attempt is made to execute it, we recommend the calling a New England Convention to deliberate upon the best course to pursue.

The opinions of the colored citizens of Providence, concerning this insane proceeding of our National Legislature, and their conclusions in the premises have been fully and plainly expressed. We extract from the *Providence Journal*.

MEETING OF COLORED CITIZENS.

At a public mass meeting of the colored citizens of Providence, R. I., held in Hoppins Hall, on Monday evening, Sept. 23d, relative to the fugitive slave bill, the following resolutions were presented and adopted:

Whereas, we, the colored inhabitants of this country, have been shamefully oppressed by this nation's despotic legislation from its formation, causeless—therefore.

Resolved, That we, the citizens of Providence, R. I., in view of the fugitive slave bill, do, from this time henceforth, pledge to sacrifice our lives and our all upon the altar of protection to our wives, our children, and our fellow sufferers in common with us.

Whereas our fathers bore their breast firmly to the howling storm of British artillery, and struggled with the peril of the Revolution manfully and patriotically for all the true glory of which this country should ever boast—

Resolved, That we have an undoubted and inherent right to unrestrained liberty, and the pursuit of happiness anywhere on this vast domain, the foundations of which were laid through the blood and energies of our fathers, who, according to Gen Washington's own words, fought with unflinching bravery in the darkest hour of '76, for an asylum truly democratic in its whole character.

Resolved, That we believe that the moral and executive character of Rhode Island is too democratic to practice or submit to an enactment so inhuman and disgraceful.

Resolved, That we look to the great moral arm of Rhode Island as a refuge from the storm which now threatens our social habitations, with lamentations beyond endurance.

Resolved, That we consider the action of Congress, in the passage of the fugitive slave bill, unworthy of the age, and an abiding disgrace upon that body.

Resolved, That the act is unconstitutional, from the fact of its destroying the rights guaranteed to each State by the Constitution, namely—securing to each and every person within their limits life and property.

Resolved, That we, upon mature consideration, believe it to be our duty to God, ourselves, our children, and three millions of our brethren that are in bonds, at any hour of day or night, that a slaveholder, or his agent, shall come within the limits of the State of Rhode Island for the purpose of retaking runaway slaves, that we will use every means that nature or art may place into our hands to deprive him of his object.

Resolved, That we who have escaped from chains, fetters, and the slave driver's lash, are determined never to go back again, but have adopted the inestimable motto—Liberty or Death.

Resolved, That these resolutions be referred to a committee of three for publication, and with instructions to transmit copies of them to the Governor and the members of Congress from this State.

E. SCOTT,
SHERMAN MARRS,
JOHN BANKS,
Committee of publication.

Let it be remembered that these are the resolutions of no despicable class of men, they are citizens, freemen, tax-payers, Christians. Revolutionary blood courses in their veins, and let the kidnapper beware how he stirs it. Their fathers learned lessons of freedom from a Hopkins, and lessons of bravery from a Green and a Barton; and shall the descendants of such patriots hesitate when the alternative is Slavery or Death? No, Southron, no!

Still another voice has spoken in our own State. It is the voice of a large and highly respectable religious denomination. The Conference consisted of delegates from nearly all the free States.

At the late session of the General Conference of the Free Will Baptist denomination, held at Providence, R. I, the colored citizens of the city requested the action of the Conference in relation to the lately enacted Fugitive Slave bill. The subject was referred to the Committee on Slavery, which subsequently [October 7, 1850] reported the following preamble and resolutions.

Whereas the Congress of the United States has lately passed a bill which subjects any person who shall knowingly and willingly prevent an alleged fugitive slave from being arrested by the person or his agent, who may claim such fugitive as his or her property; or who shall attempt to rescue a fugitive from the custody of his claimant or the agent of such claimant; or who shall directly or indirectly assist such fugitive to escape from his alleged owner; or shall prevent the discovery or arrest of a person after knowing him or her to be claimed as a fugitive slave, shall for any one of these acts be liable to a fine of not more than $1,000, and to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months:

And whereas the said bill allows each claimant of fugitives the sum of $1,000 for every person so claimed that shall be lost to the claimant:

And whereas the said bill authorizes certain officers, if they shall deem it necessary, to call on any freeman they please, to aid them in the forcible return of the fugitive to his claimant:

And whereas no compact for the return of fugitive slaves is known to exist or ever to have existed between any States or nations, except that between the Autocracy of Russia and the Despotism of Turkey, and also that existing between these United States:

And whereas the enactments of the aforesaid Fugitive Slave bill are directly, explicitly, and positively opposed to the following enactment of Jehovah, "Thou shalt not deliver unto his master the servant which is escaped from his master unto thee."—*Deut.* xxiii, 15.

And whereas said bill is oppressive, tyrannical, and odious in its nature, barbarous and incendiary in its inception and tendencies, dishonorable to its authors and abettors, a stain upon the statute book of the nation, a reproach to humanity, and insulting to the religion, conscience, and intelligence of the Christian and freemen of the free States. Therefore,

Resolved, That we do deliberately and calmly, yet earnestly and decidedly, deny any and all obligation on our part to submit to the unrighteous enactments of the aforesaid Fugitive Slave bill. Also, that regardless of unjust human enactments, fines and imprisonment, we will do all we can consistently with the claims of the Bible, to prevent the recapture of the fugitive, and to aid him in his efforts to escape from his rapacious claimants.

Resolved, That as "we ought to obey God rather than men," (*Acts* v, 29) in disobeying a cruel and wicked human law, and patiently submitting to its unrighteous penalties for such disobedience, we are subject unto the higher powers, the powers that be," (*Rom.* xiii, 1,) in the highest and holiest sense of that Divine command; that is in the same sense in which the Apostles, primitive Christians, and the subsequent Christian martyrs, obeyed it when they disobeyed the Jewish, heathen, and Popish laws.

Resolved, That we do most deeply sympathize with those who, after having escaped from human bondage, are now in great fear, anxiety, and distress, on account of the passage of the Fugitive Slave bill. We also recommend them to use all the means to preserve their liberty that religion, conscience, and reason will justify under their harassing and distressing circumstances.

Resolved, That the conduct of slaveholders and their abettors in procuring the annexation of Texas in order to afford security to Slavery, their efforts to establish the unmerciful institution in the free Territory acquired by the war caused by that annexation; also, their violent opposition to the admission of California into the Union as a free State, and their threats to dissolve the Union if they cannot be permitted to carry Slavery where they please, are developments that afford increasing proof of the deep inherent depravity of American Slavery, and likewise call loudly for continued and increasing Christian and constitutional efforts for its abolition.

The pulpits of this city have not been altogether silent. Some of them have spoken with a fervency and power that speaks well for their manliness and independence. All honor to such. Flash out the light, that all the owls and bats of conservatism within your temples may be startled and forever driven from their hiding places. Where the light is, such cannot dwell.

Will this Society sustain its Executive Committee—the colored citizens of this city—the clergymen who have so bravely spoken, by its undivided, united, and formal approval? It is for the Society to give power to these expressions, by re-affirming them; to give them efficiency, by scattering them through the land.

The course of the leading newspapers of the city should be noticed if we would have a fair understanding of the public mind relatively to this matter and the general subject of Slavery. The *Providence Journal* and the *Post*, representing the "Whig" and "Democratic" parties, have not been as undeviatingly true to humanity as we could wish. They seem to be bound by party cords, yet, not willingly bound; for at times, there are decided symptoms of a struggling to be free. We earnestly hope that the time is not far distant, when, spurning every shackle, they will speak in unambiguous condemnation of the paltry, detestable dough-faceism so prevalent among Northern politicians; of the slave act; and in manly contempt of the unjust, tyrannical and ridiculous encroachments and pretensions of the slave power.

The *Herald*—there is more hope of a fool than of it. It barks for the Union. Whenever the *Journal of Commerce*, Bennett's *Herald*, or Daniel S. Dickinson speaks, it shakes its long ears approvingly. The South should immediately adopt it as its "official organ" for the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations.

These are the principal papers of the city, and this is our opinion of them. We would not speak hastily or uncharitably, but the crisis demands that we speak plainly. We need to know who are, and who are not, our friends. The enemies, the condemners of man's rights are not, and never shall be, our friends. There is, and ever shall be, "eternal hate" between us—"So help us God." This was our oath in youth and it is not forgotten in our manhood.

There are undoubtedly men among us, so lost to self-respect, decency, and rational humanity as to aid in the execution of this abominable enactment, an enactment that overrides the Constitution, and that Constitution of Constitutions, the Law of God. It becomes the Society to devise measures for paralyzing the polluted arms of such, if they shall ever dare to raise them against the liberty of any of our fellow-citizens.

That there should be such men among us should not be thought strange, when a Northern man, a professed friend and avocate of human liberty, has affixed his seal of approbation to such a bloody act of extradition, and given it the authority of Law. It has been said that we misjudge this act. The following statement concerning its practical working and effects, proves that our judgments are not uncharitable:

Extracts from National Era, Oct, 24, 1850.

The following account of a slave case at Detroit, shows how safe are a man's liberties in the hands of a Slave-catching Commissioner.

Rose vs. Rose.—Before Samuel G. Watson, Esq., a United States Commissioner at Detroit, Oct. 8, 1850.

The claimant caused the respondent to be arrested upon a warrant of the Commissioner, as a fugitive slave from Tennessee. After being lodged in the Detroit jail one night, and guarded there by a company of troops, he was brought before the Commissioner.

The counsel for the negro presented an affidavit duly sworn by the former, stating that he was manumitted by deed of the present claimant for 700 dollars, which the latter had received for the same, and that the deed is now in the hands of the negro's friends in Cincinnati.

On this affidavit the counsel for the prisoner moves that the case be continued until the deed of emancipation can be procured and used as evidence. The Commissioner decides that the deed would be inadmissible if produced; that he has no power to inquire into any defence the negro may have against the claim, but only to determine whether the case presented on the part of the claimant is sufficient to entitle him to a certificate for the removal of the negro. The matter, however, is laid over for adjournment for several days, and the negro remanded to jail.

The construction of the late act will, we presume, strike many persons with surprise. It absolutely *annuls a deed of emancipation*, and enables fraud and perjury to snatch any person, white or black, from his home in a free State, to transport him to a Southern slave market.

This man was redeemed by the citizens of Detroit. A beautiful law this for a Republican Government—which annuls a deed, legally drawn and executed! Light, then, should be thrown upon the public mind, so that the example of power and position shall not snare men from guilt, when they dare to trample on God-given rights.

Notwithstanding our National Legislature has thrown open an immense territory, (New Mexico and Utah) heretofore free, to the curse of Slavery—notwithstanding we have been obliged, in order to purchase her good will (for she has no other ground for her claim) to offer to her ten millions of dollars—still something has been saved if not gained. We chose to use the reported language of Mr. Charles Sumner here, instead of our own, uttered at the late Free Soil Meeting in Faneuil Hall.

The speaker rejoiced that the late Congress had done some good things—that a golden free State had lately arisen, Orient in the Occident. He was thankful that Congress had stamped her *free*, and never will California fail in loyalty to freedom. Our National Legislature has done other good things. It has set the seal of scorn upon the internal slave trade.....These are but stepping stones to higher and nobler reforms. If Congress does so much for freedom it will live to do more.

The immediate and entire abolition of Slavery was agitated in our last Congress as never before. This is encouraging. It is the beginning of the end. The brave man who lifted his voice so faithfully on this behalf should receive the commendation of this Society,—The hoof of Slavery is upon him—God grant that he may not be crushed!

These are national matters, but they should interest us, as they bear on the common cause.

During the past year another philanthropist has been arrested and is now in prison upon the charge of assisting in, or procuring the flight of Slaves from Slavery. This in the District of Columbia and the State of Maryland. He needs our sympathy and aid. While he is in prison, we are in prison. He is our brother—a laborer in the same cause. Even if guilty of the charge alleged against him, he has only done what we all would, or *ought* to have done, had we been in his circumstances. Let us send him a word of cheer and encouragement to break the gloom of his prison house.

This, then, is a crisis in our affairs demanding vigilant, energetic action. The public conscience is aroused as it never was before. The public heart feels as it never did before. The question, "What has the North to do with Slavery?" is answered, and men see it. The cry now is, "*What shall we do?*" For this Commonwealth, this Society must answer, by scattering information with a liberal hand. Lectures must be provided—newspapers of the right stamp—tracts embodying striking and important facts should be sent abroad as leaves upon the wind. Fugitives must be provided for, encouraged, and defended. To do this, the Society must have funds—money. Will it not be given liberally? Every dollar given now, tells, as it never could tell before, and if withheld, as may never be able to tell in the future. Each freeman must give something, do something, though it be but a sixpence worth. We shall be verily guilty if we do not. But what we do must be done quickly.

AMARANCY PAINE, Secretary.

HELP FOR THE FUGITIVE.

S. H. GAY, ESTEEMED FRIEND:—I would ask the privilege of appealing through the *Standard* to a humane and benevolent public, on behalf of a large number of our fellow-beings, who have sought refuge from *oppressive laws*, in a neighboring province. Many of them, having fled hastily, are unprovided with suitable clothing to protect them from the severity of the Northern climate.

Donations in money, materials for clothing and particularly cast off apparel are earnestly solicited, for these perishing poor; and may be left at the office of this paper, No. 142 Nassau street, up stairs, or at the store of the subscriber, No. 54 Beaver street, New York.

ROWLAND JOHNSON.

Editors who sympathize with the oppressed are desired to give the above notice a place in their papers.

Miscellaneous Intelligence.

——THANKSGIVING was observed (Nov. 28th,) in the following States: Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Michigan, Kentucky, Maryland, Florida, Indiana and Ohio. Also, in the District of Columbia.—Vermont observes Dec. 5; New York, Pennsylvania and Alabama, Dec. 12; Maine, Dec 19. North Carolina observed Nov. 14, as did also the city of Savannah. South, Carolina, Oct. 24.

——GEN. CHAPLIN.—The *Rockville* (Md.) *Journal* says that this noted individual is still in jail at that place, the $19,000 bail not having yet been entered into in his case of assault upon the individuals who arrested him when abducting negroes.

——In a village in an adjoining State, says the *Post*, the following notice is posted in a bar-room: "The members of the Liseum will meet on Wednesday evening to discuss the following questun: Should a man be gided by publick oppinion or not?"

——NEGRO KILLED BY HIS MASTER—We learn that a negro boy, belonging to Mr. R. Jones, of this county, killed by his master on Friday night, 25th inst. The negro had been to town to witness the hanging, and, being under the influence of liquor when he returned home, attacked his master, who drew a knife and cut his throat. We suppose that nothing will be done with Mr. J., as it was entirely in self-defence.—*Rutherford* (*Tenn*) *Telegraph*.

——SENTENCE OF DEATH COMMUTED.—In the case of Wm, Bulman, convicted of a rape on a female in the county of Berkshire, Mass., and sentenced to be executed, the Governor and Council have commuted the sentence to imprisonment for life in the State Prison.

——MR. CRITTENDEN AND THE BOSTON SLAVE-HUNT.—The following is the opinion of Mr. Crittenden, Attorney-General of the U. S., on the conduct of Mr. Devens, the Marshal of Massachusetts, in regard to the recent attempt to capture William and Ellen Crafts—It will be seen that, in the judgment of Mr. Crittenden, there is no satisfactory evidence of neglect or evasion of duty on the part of Mr Devens or his Deputy.

OFFICE OF ATTORNEY-GENERAL,
MONDAY, NOV. 25, 1850.

TO THE PRESIDENT: As requested by you, I have carefully examined all the papers placed in my hands relating to complaints made against Charles Devens, Esq., the Marshal of Massachusetts District, for alleged neglect and dereliction of duty in failing to execute a warrant which came to his hands for the arrest of William Crafts, a fugitive slave.

These papers consisting chiefly of the affidavits of Mr. Devens, the Marshal, his Deputy, Mr. P. Riley, James Dickson, George T. Curtis, Esq., and Willis H. Hughes, agent for the owner of the slave, with letters from Mr Fay and Mr. Curtis, are herewith returned. Having perused them with care, and certainly without any bias or prepossession in favor of the Marshal or his Deputy I must say that, though I can see no evidence of any particular activity and energy on their part, it seems to me there does not sufficiently appear any cause for the censure of their conduct or the removal of the Marshal from office. A more commendable activity might probably have been exerted by them; but they seem to have acted, to a considerable extent, upon consultation and in concert with Mr. Hughes, the agent for the owner of the fugitive, and, what might otherwise appear to be blameable in them, may have been the result of that consultation and concert. In this uncertain state of the case, the declaration made by Mr. Hughes, at the conclusion of the transaction, "that he had no complaints to make against them," or words to that effect, is entitled to, and has had some influence on my judgment.

If I could have discovered any satisfactory evidence of the neglect or evasion of duty by these officers, in this case, it would have been no less consonant with my feelings than with my judgment, to have recommended their instant dismission from the public service.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, yours,

J. J. CRITTENDEN.

——A CHAMPION OF WOMAN'S RIGHTS.—The *Lowell Offering* furnishes an interesting account of Miss Weber, a young Belgian lady, who stands preeminent among the advocates of Woman's Rights. Her practice is in accordance with her theory, and she wears male attire and carries on a farm. She is handsome, only 24 years old, dresses in the Parisian fashion of black dress coat and pants, with buff vest. Her defence of the practice is racy. The nether garment (she says) was first worn in the bifurcated form by the women of ancient Judea. The exclusive claim which man so pertinaciously maintains to the use of this garment is arbitary, without a solitary argument to support it, not even that of prior usage. Nature never intended that the sexes should be distinguished by apparel. The beard which she assigned to man is the natural token of his sex. (Miss Weber may not only take our hat, but pants also.) She claims in addition every civil, political, and ecclesiastical right for woman, and it is said that her every word, look and action is characterized with the most refined womanly delicacy.

——THE LIBERTY PARTY VOTE.—Chaplin's vote for Governor in Madison County is 600; Onondaga, 329; Oswego, 249; Cortland, 223; Jefferson, 136; Herkimer, 120; Oneida, 108; Washington, 100; and in the remaining counties (with the exception of Albany, Franklin, Greene, Kings, Monroe, Montgomery, New York, Ontario, Richmond, Rockland, Schenectady, St. Lawrance, Warren, Wayne, Wyoming and Yates, whose county canvasses have not yet been received,) his vote does not reach 100 in each county. The Liberty Party Lieut. Governor, Canal Commissioners, State Prison Inspector, and Clerk of Appeals, fall considerably below Chaplin.

CONGRESSIONAL.

ORGANIZATION OF THE SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2d.

At 12 o'clock Senate called to order. Present: Bradbury, Hamlin, Hale, Norris, John Davis, Winthrop, Phelps, Clark, Upham, Smith, Baldwin, Dickinson, Seward, Cooper, Sturgeon, Wales, Spruance, Pratt, Pierce, Mason, Hunter, Badger, Mangum, Berrien, King, Clemens, Morton, Benton, Bell, Turney, Ewing, Chase, Shields, Whitcomb, Dodge of Wis., Walker, Jones, Dodge of Iowa, Felch, Cass.

Mr. Sturgeon offered resolution that Secretary inform the House that a quorum was present and ready to proceed to business. Adopted.

On motion by Dodge, Iowa, ordered that Senators be allowed newspapers equal to the cost of four daily papers

On motion, ordered the hour of meeting shall be 12 o'clock.

A message received from House that quorum was present.

Mr. Berrien submitted a resolution that a committee of two be appointed by the Charman to act with like committee of the House, and inform the President of the U. States that a quorum was present in each, and ready to receive any communication from him. Adopted. And Messrs. Berrien and Dickinson were appointed committee.

ORGANIZATION OF THE HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2, 12h. 40 m.

The galleries are well filled, members are on the floor, exchanging happy salutations—great confusion of tongues, which was silenced at 12 o'clock, by the Speaker calling to order. Seats were taken by the members—comparatiae stillness produced—the Clerk called the roll, when one hundred and sixty members answered to their names.

A committee was appointed to wait on the President—who having attended to that duty in the usual form, the Message was soon after received.

The President's Message.

Fellow citizens of the Senate,
and of the House of Representatives:

Being suddenly called, in the midst of the last session of Congress, by a painful dispensation of Divine Providence, to the responsible station which I now hold, I contented myself with such communications to the Legislature as the exigency of the moment seemed to require. The country was shrouded in mourning for the loss of its venerated Chief Magistrate, and all hearts were penetrated with grief.

Neither the time nor the occasion appeared to require or to justify, on my part, any general expression of political opinions, or any announcement of the principles which would govern me in the discharge of the duties to the performance of which I had been so unexpectedly called. I trust, therefore, that it may not be deemed inappropriate, if I avail myself of this opportunity of the re-assembling of Congress to make known my sentiments, in a general manner, in regard to the policy which ought to be pursued by the Government, both in its intercourse with foreign nations, and in its management and administration of internal affairs.

Nations, like individuals in a state of nature, are equal and independent, possessing certain rights, and owing certain duties to each other, arising from their necessary and unavoidable relations; which rights and duties there is no common human authority to protect and enforce. Still, they are rights and duties, binding in morals, in conscience, and in honor, although there is no tribunal to which an injured party can appeal but the disinterested judgment of mankind, and ultimately the arbitrament of the sword.

Among the acknowledged rights of nations, is that, which each possesses of establishing that form of government which it may deem most conducive to the happiness and prosperity of its own citizens; of changing that form as circumstances may require; and of managing its internal affairs according to its own will. The people of the United States claim this right for themselves, and they readily concede it to others. Hence it becomes an imperative duty not to interfere in the government or internal policy of other nations; and, although we may sympathize with the unfortunate or the opressed, every where, in their struggles for freedom, our principles forbid us from taking any part in such foreign contests.

We make no wars to promote or to prevent successions to thrones, to maintain any theory of a balance of power, or to suppress the actual government which any country chooses to establish for itself. We instigate no revolutions, nor suffer any hostile military expeditions to be fitted out in the United States to invade the territory or provinces of a friendly nation.—The great law of morality ought to have a national, as well as a personal and individual, application. We should act towards other nations as we wish them to act towards us, and justice and conscience should form the rule of conduct between governments, instead of mere power, self-interest, or the desire of aggrandizement.

To maintain a strict neutrality in foreign wars, to cultivate friendly relations, to reciprocate every noble and generous act, and to perform punctually and scrupulously every treaty obligation—these are the duties which we owe to other States, and by the performance of which we best entitle ourselves to like treatment from them; or if that, in any case, be refused, we can enforce our own rights with justice and a clear conscience.

In our domestic policy, the Constitution will be my guide; and in questions of doubt, I shall look for its interpretation to the judicial decisions of that tribunal, which was established to expound it, and to the usage of the Government, sanctioned by the acquiescence of the country. I regard all its provisions as equally binding. In all its parts it is the will of the people, expressed in the most solemn form, and the constituted authorities, are but agents to carry that will into effect.

Every power which it has granted is to be exercised for the public good; but no pretence of utility, no honest conviction, even, of what might be expedient, can justify the assumption of any power not granted. The powers conferred upon the goverment and their distribution to the several departments, are as clearly expressed in that sacred instrument as the imperfection of human language will allow; and I deem it my first duty, not to question its wisdom, add to its provisions, evade its requirements, or nullify its commands.

Upon you, fellow-citizens, as the representatives of the States and the people, is wisely devolved the legislative power. I shall comply with my duty, in laying before you, from time to time, any information calculated to enable you to discharge your high and responsible trust, for the benefit of our common constituents.

My opinions will be frankly expressed upon the leading subjects of legislation; and if, which I do not anticipate, any act should pass the two Houses of Congress which should appear to me unconstitutional, or an encroachment on the just powers of other departments, or with provisions hastily adopted, and likely to produce consequences injurious and unforeseen, I should not shrink from the duty of returning it to you, with my reasons, for your further consideration. Beyond the due performance of these constitutional obligations, both my respect for the legislature, and my sense of propriety, will restrain me from any attempt to control or influence your proceedings. With you is the power, the honor, and the responsibility of the legislation of the country.

The Government of the United States is a limited Government. It is confined to the exercise of powers expressly granted, and such others as may be necessary for carrying those powers into effect; and it is at all times an especial duty to guard against any infringement on the just rights of the States. Over the objects and subjects intrusted to Congress its legislative authority is supreme. But here that authority ceases, and every citizen who truly loves the Constitution, and desires the continuance of its existence and its blessings, will resolutely and firmly resist any interference in those domestic affairs, which the Constitution has clearly and unequivocally left to the exclusive authority of the States.

And every such citizen will also deprecate useless irritation among the several members of the Union, and all reproach and crimination tending to alienate one portion of the country from another. The beauty of our system of Government consists, and its safety and durability must consist, in avoiding mutual collisions, and encroachments, and in the regular separate action of all, while each is revolving in its own distinct orbit.

The Constitution has made it the duty of the President to take care that the laws be faithfully executed. In a Government like ours, in which all laws are passed by a majority of the representatives of the people, and these representatives are chosen for such short periods, that any injurious or obnoxious law can very soon be repealed, it would appear unlikely that any great numbers should be found ready to resist the execution of the laws. But it must be borne in mind that the country is extensive, that there may be local interests or prejudices rendering a law odious in one part, which is not so in another, and that the thoughtless and inconsiderate, misled by their passion, or their imaginations, may be induced madly to resist such laws as they disapprove.

Such persons should recollect that, without law, there can be no real practical liberty; that, when law is trampled under foot, tyranny rules, whether it appears in the form of a military despotism, or of popular violence. The law is the only sure protection of the weak, and the only efficient restraint upon the strong. When impartially and faithfully administered, none is beneath its protection, and none above its control. You, gentlemen, and the country may be assured, that to the utmost of my ability, and to the extent of the power vested in me, I shall at all times, and in all places, take care that the laws be faithfully executed. In the discharge of this duty, solemnly imposed upon me by the Constitution, and by my oath of office, I shall shrink from no responsibility, and shall endeavor to meet events as they may arise, with firmness, as well as with prudence and discretion.

The appointing power is one of the most delicate with which the Executive is invested. I regard it as a sacred trust, to be exercised with the sole view of advancing the prosperity and happiness of the people. It shall be my effort to elevate the standard of official employment, by selecting for places of importance individuals fitted for the posts to which they are assigned, by their known integrity, talents, and virtues. In so extensive a country, with so great a population, and where few persons appointed to office can be known to the appointing power, mistakes will sometimes unavoidably happen, and unfortunate appointments be made, notwithstanding the greatest care. In such cases, the power of removal may be properly exercised; and neglect of duty or malfeasance in office will be no more tolerated in individuals appointed by myself than in those appointed by others.

I am happy in being able to say that no unfavorable change in our foreign relations has taken place since the Message at the opening of the last Session of Congress. We are at peace with all nations, and we enjoy in an eminent degree the blessings of that peace, in a prosperous and growing commerce, and in all the forms of amicable national intercourse. The unexampled growth of the country, the present amount of its population, and its ample means of self-protection, assure for it the respect of all nations; while it is trusted that its character for justice, and a regard to the rights of other States, will cause that respect to be readily and cheerfully paid.

A convention was negotiated between the United States and Great Britain, in April last, for facilitating and protecting the construction of a ship canal between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, and for other purposes. This instrument has since been ratified by the contracting parties, the exchange of ratifications has been effected, and proclamation thereof has been duly made.

In addition to the stipulations contained in this convention, two other objects remain to be accomplished between the contracting powers.

First, the designation and establishment of a free port at each end of the canal.

Second, an agreement fixing the distance from the shore within which belligerent maritime operations shall not be carried on. On these points there is little doubt that the two governments will come to an understanding.

The company of citizens of the United States who have acquired from the State of Nicaragua the privilege of constructing a ship canal between the two oceans, through the territory of that State, have made progress in their preliminary arrangements. The treaty between the United States and Great Britain, of the 19th of April last, above referred to, being now in operation, it is to be hoped that the guaranties which it offers, will be sufficient to secure the completion of the work with all practicable expedition. It is obvious that this result would be indefinitely postponed, if any other than peaceful measures, for the purpose of harmonizing conflicting claims to territory in that quarter, should be adopted. It will consequently be my endeavor to cause any further negociations on the part of this government, which may be requisite for this purpose, to be so conducted as to bring them to a speedy and successful close.

Some unavoidable delay has occurred, arising from distance and the difficulty of intercourse between this Government and that of Nicaragua, but, as intelligence has just been received of the appointment of an Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of that Government to reside at Washington, whose arrival may soon be expected, it is hoped that no further impediments will be experienced in the prompt transaction of business between the two Governments.

Citizens of the U. States have undertaken the connexion of the two oceans by means of a railroad across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, under grants of the Mexican Government to a citizen of that Republic. It is understood that a thorough survey of the course of the communication is in preparation, and there is every reason to expect that it will be prosecuted with characteristic energy, especially when that Government shall have consented to such stipulations with the Government of the United States as may be necessary to impart a feeling of security to those who may embark their property in the enterprise. Negotiations are pending for the accomplishment of that object, and a hope is confidently entertained that, when the government of Mexico shall become duly sensible of the advantages which that country cannot fail to derive from the work, and learn that the government of the United States desires that the right of sovereignty of Mexico in the isthmus shall remain unimpaired, the stipulations referred to will be agreed to with alacrity.

By the last advices from Mexico it would appear, however, that that Government entertains strong objections to some of the stipulations which the parties concerned in the project of the railroad deem necessary for their protection and security. Further consideration, it is to be hoped, or some modification of terms, may yet reconcile the differences existing between the two Governments in this respect.

Fresh instructions have recently been given to the Minister of the United States in Mexico, who is prosecuting the subject with promptitude and ability.

Although the negotiations with Portugal, for the payment of claims of citizens of the United States against that Government, have not yet resulted in a formal treaty, yet a proposition made by the Government of Portugal for the final adjustment and payment of those claims, has recently been accepted on the part of the U. States. It gives me pleasure to say that Mr. Clay, to whom the negotiation on the part of the U. States had been entrusted, discharged the duties of his appointment with ability and discretion, acting always within the instructions of his Government.

It is expected that a regular convention will be immediately negotiated for carrying the agreement between the two Governments into effect.

The commissioner appointed under the act of Congress for carrying into effect the convention with Brazil, of the 27th of January, 1849, has entered upon the performance of the duties imposed upon him by that act. It is hoped that those duties may be completed within the time which it prescribes. The documents, however, which the Imperial Government, by the third article of the convention, stipulates to furnish to the Government of the United States, have not yet been received. As it is presumed that these documents will be essential for the correct disposition of the claims, it may become necessary for Congress to extend the period limited for the duration of the commission. The sum stipulated by the 4th article of the convention to be paid to this government, has been received.

The collection in the ports of the United States of discriminating duties upon the vessels of Chili and their cargoes, had been suspended, pursuant to the provisions of the act of Congress of the 24th of May, 1828. It is to be hoped that this measure will impart a fresh impulse to the commerce between the two countries, which, of late, and especially since our acquisition of California, has, to the mutual advantage of the parties, been much augmented.

Peruvian guano has become so desirable an article to the agricultural interest of the United States, that it is the duty of the Government to employ all the means properly in its power for the purpose of causing that article to be imported into the country at a reasonable price. Nothing will be omitted on my part towards accomplishing this desirable end. I am persuaded that in removing any restraints on this traffic, the Peruvian government will promote its own best interests, while it will afford a proof of a friendly disposition towards this country, which will be duly appreciated.

The treaty between the United States and His Majesty the King of the Hawaiian Islands, which has recently been made public, will, it is believed, have a beneficial effect upon the relations between the two countries.

The relations between those parts of the Island of St. Domingo, which were formerly colonies of Spain and France, respectively, are still in an unsettled condition. The proximity of that island to the United States, and the delicate questions involved in the existing controversy there, render it desirable that it should be permanently and speedily adjusted.

The interests of humanity and of general commerce also demand this; and, as intimations of the same sentiment have been received from other Governments, it is hoped that some plan may soon be devised to effect the object in a manner likely to give general satisfaction. The Government of the United States will not fail, by the exercise of all proper friendly offices, to do all in its power to put an end to the destructive war which has raged between the different parts of the Island, and to secure to them both the benefits of peace and commerce.

I refer you to the report of the Secretary of the Treasury for a detailed statement of the finances. The total receipts into the Treasury, for the year ending 30th of June last, were forty-seven million, four hundred and twenty-one thousand, seven hundred and forty-eight dollars and ninety cents, ($47,421,748,90.)

The total expenditures during the same period were forty-three million two thousand one hundred and sixty-eight dollars and ninety cents, ($43,002,168 90.)

The public debt has been reduced, since the last annual report from the Treasury Department, four hundred and ninety-five thousand, two hundred and seventy-six dollars and seventy-nine cents ($495-276 79).

By the 19th section of the act of 28th January, 1847, the proceeds of the sales of the public lands were pledged for the interest and principal of the public debt. The great amount of those lands subsequently granted by Congress for military bounties, will, it is believed, very nearly supply the public demand for several years to come, and but little reliance can, therefore, be placed on that hitherto fruitful source of revenue.

Aside from the permanent annual expenditures, which have necessarily largely increased, a portion of the public debt, amounting to eight million, seventy-five thousand, nine hundred and eighty-six dollars and fifty-nine cents (8,075,986 59) must be provided for within the next two fiscal years. It is most desirable that these accruing demands should be met without resorting to new loans.

All experience has demonstrated the wisdom and policy of raising a large portion of revenue, for the support of Government from duties on goods imported. The power to lay these duties is unquestionable, and its chief object, of course, is to replenish the treasury. But if, in doing this, an incidental advantage may be gained by encouraging the industry of our own citizens, it is our duty to avail ourselves of that advantage.

A duty laid upon an article which cannot be produced in this country—such as tea or coffee—adds to the cost of the article, and is chiefly or wholly paid by the consumer. But a duty laid upon an article which may be produced here, stimulates the skill and industry of our own country, to produce the same article, which is brought into the market in competition with the foreign article, and the importer is thus compelled to reduce his price to that, at which the domestic article can be sold, thereby throwing a part of the duty upon the producer of the foreign article.

The continuance of this process creates the skill, and invites the capital, which finally enable us to produce the article much cheaper than it could have been procured abroad, thereby benefiting both the producer and the consumer at home. The consequence of this is, that the artisan, and the agriculturist, are brought together, each affords a ready market for the produce of the other, the whole country becomes prosperous; and the ability to produce every necessary of life renders us independent in war as well as in peace.

A high tariff can never be permanent. It will cause dissatisfaction and will be changed. It excludes competition, and thereby invites the investment of capital in manufactures to such excess, that when changed it brings distress, bankruptcy, and ruin, upon all who have been misled by its faithless protection. What the manufacturer wants, is uniformity and permanency, that he may feel a confidence that he is not to be ruined by sudden changes. But to make a tariff uniform and permanent, it is not only necessary that the law should not be altered, but the duty should not fluctuate.

To effect this, all duties should be specific, wherever the nature of the article is such as to admit of it. Ad valorem duties fluctuate with the price, and offer strong temptations to fraud and perjury. Specific duties, on the contrary are equal and uniform in all ports, and at all times, and offer a strong inducement to the importer to bring the best article, as he pays no more duty upon that, than upon one of inferior quality. I therefore strongly recommend a modification of the present tariff, which has prostrated some of our most important and necessary manufactures, and that specific duties be imposed sufficient to raise the requisite revenue, making such discrimination in favor of the industrial pursuits of our own country as to encourage home production, without excluding foreign competition. It is also important that an unfortunate provision in the present, tariff which imposes a much higher duty upon the raw material that enters into our manufactures than upon the manufactured article, should be remedied.

The papers accompanying the report of the Secretary of the Treasury will disclose frauds attempted upon the revenue, in variety and amount so great, as to justify the conclusion that it is impossible, under any system of ad valorem duties levied upon the foreign cost or value of the article, to secure an honest observance and an effectual administration of the laws. The fraudulent devices to evade the law, which have been detected by the vigilance of the appraisers, leave no room to doubt that similar impositions not discovered, to a large amount, have been successfully practised since the enactment of the law now in force. This state of things has already had a prejudicial influence upon those engaged in foreign commerce. It has a tendency to drive the honest trader from the business of importing, and to throw that important branch of employment into the hands of unscrupulous and dishonest men, who are alike regardless of law and the obligations of an oath. By these means the plain intentions of Congress, as expressed in the law, are daily defeated. Every motive of policy and duty, therefore, impel me to ask the earnest attention of Congress to this subject. If Congress should deem it unwise to attempt any important changes in the system of levying duties at this session, it will become indispensable to the protection of the revenue that such remedies, as in the judgment of Congress may mitigate the evils complained of, should be at once applied.

As before stated, specific duties would in my opinion, afford the most perfect remedy for this evil; but, if you should not concur in this view, then, as a partial remedy, I beg leave respectfully to recommend that instead of taking the invoice of the article abroad as a means of determining its value here, the correctness of which invoice it is in many cases impossible to verify, the law be so changed as to require a home valuation or appraisal, to be regulated in such manner as to give, as far as practicable, uniformity in the several ports.

There being no mint in California, I am informed that the laborers in the mines are compelled to dispose of their gold dust at a large discount. This appears to me to be a heavy and unjust tax upon the labor of those employed in extracting this precious metal; and I doubt not you will be disposed at the earliest period possible, to relieve them from it, by the establishment of a mint. In the mean time, as an assayer's office is established there, I would respectfully submit for your consideration the propriety of authorizing gold bullion, which has been assayed and stamped, to be received in payment of Government dues. I cannot conceive that the treasury would suffer any loss by such a provision, which will at once raise bullion to its par value, and thereby save (if I am rightly informed) many millions of dollars to the laborers which are now paid in brokerage to convert this precious metal into available funds. This discount upon their hard earnings is a heavy tax, and every effort should be made by the Government to relieve them from so great a burden.

More than three-fourths of our population are engaged in the cultivation of the soil—The commercial, manufacturing, and navigating interests are all, to a great extent, dependent on the agricultural. It is, therefore, the most important interest of the nation, and has a just claim to the fostering care and protection of the Government, so far as they can be extended consistently with the provisions of the Constitution. As this cannot be done by the ordinary modes of legislation, I respectfully recommend the establishment of an Agricultural Bureau, to be charged with the duty of giving to this leading branch of American industry the encouragement which it so well deserves. In view of the immense mineral resources of our country, provision should also be made for the employment of a competent mineralogist and chemist, who should be required under the direction of the head of the bureau, to collect specimens of the various minerals of our country, and to ascertain, by careful analysis, their respective elements and properties, and their adaptation to useful purposes. He should also be required to examine and report upon the qualities of different soils, and the manures best calculated to improve their productiveness. By publishing the results of such experiments, with suitable explanations, and by the collection and distribution of rare seeds and plants, with instructions as to the best system of cultivation, much may be done to promote this great national interest.

In compliance with the act of Congress, passed on the 23rd of May, 1850, providing, among other things, for taking the seventh census, a superintendent was appointed, and all other measures adopted which were deemed necessary to ensure the prompt and faithful performance of that duty. The appropriation already made will, it is believed, be sufficient to defray the whole expense of the work; but further legislation may be necessary in regard to the compensation of some of the marshals of the Territories. It will also be proper to make provision by law, at an early day, for the publication of such abstracts of the returns as the public interests may require.

The unprecedented growth of our Territories on the Pacific in wealth and population, and the consequent increase of their social and commercial relations with the Atlantic States, seem to render it the duty of the Government to use all its constitutional power to improve the means of intercourse with them. The importance of opening a "line of communication, the best and most expeditious of which the nature of the country will admit," between the valley of the Mississippi and the Pacific, was brought to your notice by my predecessor, in his annual message; and as the reasons which he presented in favor of the measure still exist in full force, I beg leave to call your attention to them, and to repeat the recommendations then made by him.

The uncertainty which exists in regard to the validity of land titles in California is a subject which demands your early consideration. Large bodies of land in that State are claimed under grants said to have been made by authority of the Spanish and Mexican Governments. Many of these have not been perfected, others have been revoked, and some are believed to be fraudulent. But until they shall have been judicially investigated, they will continue to retard the settlement and improvement of the country. I, therefore, respectfully recommend that provision be made by law, for the appointment of commissioners to examine all such claims with a view to their final adjustment.

I also beg leave to call your attention to the propriety of extending, at an early day, our system of land laws, with such modifications as may be necessary, over the State of California and the territories of Utah and New Mexico. The mineral lands of California will, of course, form an exception to any general system which may be adopted. Various methods of disposing of them have been suggested. I was at first inclined to favor the system of leasing, as it seemed to promise the largest revenue to the Government and to afford the best security against monopolies;—but further reflection, and our experience in leasing the lead mines and selling lands upon credit, have brought my mind to the conclusion that there would be great difficulty in collecting the rents, and that the relation of debtor and creditor, between the citizens and the Government, would be attended with many mischievous consequences. I therefore recommend that, instead of retaining the mineral lands under the permanent control of the Government, they be divided into small parcels and sold, under such restrictions, as to quantity and time, as will insure the best price, and guard most effectually against combinations of capitalists to obtain monopolies.

The annexation of Texas and the acquisition of California and New Mexico have given increased importance to our Indian relations.—The various tribes brought under our jurisdiction by these enlargements of our boundaries are estimated to embrace a population of one hundred and twenty-four thousand.

Texas and New Mexico are surrounded by powerful tribes of Indians, who are a source of constant terror and annoyance to the inhabitants. Separating into small predatory bands, and always mounted, they overrun the country, devastating farms, destroying crops, driving off whole herds of cattle, and occasionally murdering the inhabitants or carrying them into captivity. The great roads leading into the country are infested with them, whereby travelling is rendered extremely dangerous, and immigration is almost entirely arrested.

The Mexican frontier, which, by the 11th article of the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, we are bound to protect against the Indians within our border, is exposed to these incursions equally with our own. The military force stationed in that country, (although forming a large proportion of the army, is represented as entirely inadequate to our own protection, and the fulfilment of our treaty stipulations with Mexico. The principal deficiency is in cavalry, and I recommend that Congress should, at as early a period as practicable, provide for the raising of one or more regiments of mounted men.

For further suggestions on this subject, and others connected with our domestic interests, and the defence of our frontier, I refer you to the report of the Secretary of the Interior and of the Secretary of War.

I commend also to your favorable consideration the suggestions contained in the last mentioned report, and in the letter of the general-in-chief, relative to the establishment of an asylum for the relief of disabled and destitute soldiers. This subject appeals so strongly to your sympathies that it would be superfluous in me to say any thing more, than barely to express my cordial approbation of the proposed object.

The navy continues to give protection to our commerce and other national interests in the different quarters of the globe, and, with the exception of a single steamer on the Northern lakes, the vessels in commission are distributed in six different squadrons.

The report of the head of that Department will exhibit the services of these squadrons, and of the several vessels employed in each during the past year. It is a source of gratification that, while they have been constantly prepared for any hostile emergency, they have everywhere met with the respect and courtesy, due as well to the dignity as to the peaceful dispositions and just purposes of the nation.

The two brigantines accepted by the Government from a generous citizen of New York, and placed under the command of an officer of the navy, to proceed to the Arctic seas in quest of the British commander, Sir John Franklin, and his companions, in compliance with the act of Congress, approved in May last, had, when last heard from, penetrated into a high northern latitude; but the success of this noble and humane enterprise is yet uncertain.

I invite your attention to the view of our present naval establishment and resources presented in the report of the Secretary of the Navy, and the suggestions therein made for its improvement, together with the naval policy recommended for the security of our Pacific Coast, and the protection and extension of our commerce with Eastern Asia. Our facilities for a larger participation in the trade of the East, by means of our recent settlements on the shores of the Pacific, are too obvious to be overlooked or disregarded.

The questions in relation to rank in the army and navy, and relative rank between officers of the two branches of the service, presented to the Executive by certain resolutions of the House of Representatives, at the last session of Congress, have been submitted to a board of officers in each branch of the service, and their report may be expected at an early day.

I also earnestly recommend the enactment of a law authorizing officers of the army and navy to be retired from the service, when incompetent for its vigorous and active duties, taking care to make suitable provision for those who have faithfully served their country, and awarding distinctions, by retaining in appropriate commands those who have been particularly conspicuous for gallantry and good conduct. While the obligation of the country to maintain and honor those who, to the exclusion of other pursuits, have devoted themselves to its arduous service, this obligation should not be permitted to interfere with the efficiency of the service itself.

I am gratified in being able to state, that the estimates of expenditure for the navy in the ensuing year are less, by more than one million of dollars than those of the present, excepting the appropriation which may become necessary for the construction of a dock on the coast of the Pacific, propositions for which are now being considered, and on which a special report may be expected early in your present session.

There is an evident justness in the suggestion of the same report, that appropriations for the naval service proper should be separated from those for fixed and permanent objects, such as building docks and navy yards, and the fixtures attached; and from the extraordinary objects under the care of the Department which, however important, are not essentially naval.

A revision of the code for the government of the navy seems to require the immediate consideration of Congress. Its system of crimes and punishments had undergone no change for half a century, until the last session, though its defects have been often and ably pointed out, and the abolition of a particular species of corporal punishment, which then took place, without providing any substitute, has left the service in a state of defectiveness, which calls for prompt correction. I therefore recommend that the whole subject be revised without delay, and such a system established for the enforcement of discipline, as shall be at once humane and effectual.

The accompanying report of the Postmaster General, presents a satisfactory view of the operations and condition of that Department.

At the close of the last fiscal year, the length of the inland mail routes in the United States (not embracing the service in Oregon and California,) was one hundred and seventy-eight thousand, six hundred and seventy-two miles; the annual transportation thereon forty-six million, five hundred and forty-one thousand, four hundred and twenty-three miles; and the annual cost of such transportation two millions seven hundred and twenty-four thousand four hundred and twenty-six dollars.

The increase of the annual transportation over that of the preceding year, was three millions nine hundred and ninety-seven thousand three hundred and fifty-four miles, and the increase in cost was three hundred and forty-two thousand four hundred and forty dollars.

The number of post offices in the United States, on the first day of July last, was eighteen thousand four hundred and seventeen—being an increase of sixteen hundred and seventy during the preceding year.

The gross revenue of the Department for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1850, amounted to five millions five hundred and fifty-two thousand nine hundred and seventy-one dollars and forty-eight cents, including the annual appropriation of two hundred thousand dollars for the franked matter of the departments, and excluding the foreign postage collected for and payable to the British Government.

The expenditures for the same period were five millions two hundred and twelve thousand nine hundred and fifty three dollars and forty-three cents—leaving a balance of revenue over expenditures of three hundred and forty thousand and eighteen dollars and five cents.

I am happy to find that the fiscal condition of the Department is such as to justify the Postmaster General in recommending the reduction of our inland letter postage to three cents the single letter when prepaid, and five cents when not prepaid. He also recommends that the prepaid rate shall be reduced to two cents whenever the revenues of the Department, after the reduction, shall exceed its expenditures by more than five per cent, for two consecutive years; that the postage upon California and other letters sent by our ocean steamers shall be much reduced; and that the rates of postage on newspapers, pamphlets, periodicals, and other printed matter, shall be modified, and some reduction thereon made.

It cannot be doubted that the proposed reductions will, for the present, diminish the revenues of the Department. It is believed that the deficiency, after the surplus already accumulated shall be exhausted, may be almost wholly met, either by abolishing the existing privileges of sending free matter through the mails, or by paying out of the Treasury to the Post Office Department a sum equivalent to the postage of which it is deprived by such privileges. The last is supposed to be the preferable mode, and will, if not entirely, so nearly supply that deficiency as to make any further appropriation that may be found necessary so inconsiderable as to form no obstacle to the proposed reductions.

I entertain no doubt of the authority of Congress to make appropriations for leading objects in that class of public works comprising what are usually called works of internal improvement.

This authority I suppose to be derived chiefly from the power of regulating commerce with foreign nations, and among the States, and the power of laying and collecting imposts. Where commerce is to be carried on, and imposts collected, there must be ports and harbors, as well as wharves and custom-houses. If ships, laden with valuable cargoes, approach the shore, or sail along the coast, lighthouses are necessary at suitable points for the protection of life and property. Other facilities and securities for commerce and navigation are hardly less important; and those clauses of the Constitution, therefore, to which I have referred, have received from the origin of the Government a liberal and beneficial construction.

Not only have lighthouses, buoys, and beacons been established, and floating lights maintained, but harbors have been cleared and improved, piers constructed and even breakwaters for the safety of shipping, and sea walls to protect harbors from being filled up, and rendered useless, by the action of the ocean, have been erected at very great expense. And this construction of the Constitution appears the more reasonable from the consideration, that if these works of such evident importance and utility, are not to be accomplished by Congress, they cannot be accomplished at all. By the adoption of the Constitution the several States voluntarily parted with the power of collecting duties of impost in their own ports; and it is not to be expected that they should raise money, by internal taxation, direct or indirect, for the benefit of that commerce, the revenues derived from which do not, either in whole or in part, go into their own treasuries. Nor do I perceive any difference between the power of Congress to make appropriations for objects of this kind on the ocean and the power to make appropriations for similar objects on lakes and rivers, wherever they are large enough to bear on their waters an extensive traffic.

The magnificent Mississippi and its tributaries, and the vast lakes of the north and northwest, appear to me to fall within the exercise of the power, as justly and as clearly as the Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico. It is a mistake to regard expenditures judiciously made for these objects as expenditures for local purposes. The position, or site of the work, is necessarily local; but its utility is general. A ship canal around the falls of St. Mary of less than a mile in length, though local in its construction, would yet be national in its purpose and its benefits, as it would remove the only obstruction to a navigation of more than a thousand miles, affecting several States, as well as our commercial relations with Canada. So, too, the Breakwater at the mouth of the Delaware is erected, not for the exclusive benefit of the States bordering on the bay and river of that name, but for that of the whole coastwise navigation of the United States, and, to a considerable extent also, of foreign commerce.

If a ship be lost on the bar at the entrance of a Southern port for want of sufficient depth of water, it is very likely to be a northern ship; and if a steamboat be sunk in any part of the Mississippi, on account of its channel not having been properly cleared of obstructions, it may be a boat belonging to either of eight or ten States. I may add, as somewhat remarkable that among all the thirty-one States, there is none that is not, to a greater or less extent, bounded on the ocean, or the Gulf of Mexico, or one of the great lakes, or some navigable river.

In fulfiling our constitutional duties, fellow-citizens, on this subject, as in carrying into effect all other powers conferred by the Constitution, we should consider ourselves as deliberating and acting for one and the same country, and bear constantly in mind, that our regard and our duty are due, not to a particular part only, but to the whole.

I therefore recommend that appropriations be made for completing such works as have been already begun, and for commencing such others as may seem to the wisdom of Congress to be of public and general importance.

The difficulties and delays, incident to the settlement of private claims by Congress, amount in many cases to a denial of justice. There is reason to apprehend that many unfortunate creditors of the Government have thereby been unavoidably ruined. Congress has so much business of a public character, that it is impossible that it should give much attention to mere private claims, and their accumulation is now so great that many claimants must despair of ever being able to obtain a hearing.

It may well be doubted whether Congress, from the nature of its organization, is properly constituted to decide upon such cases. It is impossible that each member should examine the merits of every claim on which he is compelled to vote; and it is preposterous to ask a judge to decide a case which he has never heard.

Such decisions may, and frequently must, do injustice either to the claimant or the Government, and I perceive no better remedy for this growing evil than the establishment of some tribunal to adjudicate upon such claims. I beg leave, therefore, most respectfully, to recommend that provision be made by law for the appointment of a commission to settle all private claims against the United States; and, as an *ex parte* hearing must in all contested cases, be very unsatisfactory. I also recommend the appointment of a Solicitor, whose duty it shall be to represent the Government before such commission, and protect it against all illegal, fraudulent or unjust claims, which may be presented for their adjudication.

This District, which has neither voice nor vote in your deliberations, looks to you for protection and aid, and I commend all its wants to your favorable consideration, with a full confidence that you will meet them not only with justice, but with liberality. It should be borne in mind that in this city, laid out by Washington, and consecrated by his name, is located the Capitol of our nation, the emblem of our Union and the symbol of our greatness. Here also are situated all the public buildings necessary for the use of the Government, and all these are exempt from taxation.

It should be the pride of Americans to render this place attractive to the people of the whole Republic, and convenient and safe for the transaction of the public business and the preservation of the public records. The Government should, therefore, bear a liberal proportion of the burdens of all necessary and useful improvements.

And as nothing could contribute more to the health, safety and comfort of the city, and the security of the public buildings and records, than an abundant supply of pure water, I respectfully recommend that you make such provisions for obtaining the same as in your wisdom you may deem proper.

The act passed at your last session, making certain propositions to Texas, for settling the disputed boundary between that State and the Territory of New Mexico, was, immediately on its passage, transmitted by express to the Governor of Texas, to be laid by him before the General Assembly for its agreement thereto.

Its receipt was duly acknowledged, but no official information has yet been received of the action of the General Assembly thereon; it may, however, be very soon expected, as, by the terms of the propositions submitted, they were to have been acted upon, on or before the first day of the present month.

It was hardly to have been expected that the series of measures passed at your last session, with the view of healing the sectional differences which had sprung from the slavery and territorial questions, should at once have realized their beneficent purpose.

All mutual concession in the nature of a compromise must necessarily be unwelcome to men of extreme opinions. And though without such concessions our Constitution could not have been formed, and cannot be permanently sustained, yet we have seen them made the subject of bitter controversy in both sections of the Republic. It required many months of discussion and deliberation to secure the concurrence of a majority of Congress in their favor. It would be strange if they had been received with immediate approbation by the people and States, prejudiced and heated by the exciting controversies of the representatives. I believe those measures to have been required by the circumstances and condition of the country. I believe they were necessary to allay asperities and animosities that were rapidly alienating one section of the country from the other, and destroying those fraternal sentiments which are the strongest supports of the Constitution.

They were adopted in the spirit of conciliation, and for the purpose of conciliation. I believe that a great majority of our fellow-citizens sympathize in that spirit, and that purpose, and in the main approve, and are prepared, in all respects, to sustain these enactments.

I cannot doubt that the American people, bound together by kindred blood and common traditions, still cherish a paramount regard for the Union of their fathers; and that they are ready to rebuke any attempt to violate its integrity, to disturb the compromises on which it is based, or to resist the laws which have been enacted under its authority.

The series of measures to which I have alluded are regarded by me as a settlement, in principle and substance—a final settlement, of the dangerous and exciting subjects which they embraced. Most of these subjects, indeed, are beyond your reach, as the legislation which disposed of them was, in its character, final and irrevocable.

It may be presumed from the opposition which they all encountered that none of those measures are free from imperfections, but in their mutual dependence and connexion they formed a system of compromise, the most conciliatory, and best for the entire country, that could be obtained from conflicting sectional interests and opinions.

For this reason I recommend your adherence to the adjustment established by those measures, until time and experience shall demonstrate the necessity of further legislation to guard against evasion or abuse.

By that adjustment we have been rescued from the wide and boundless agitation that surrounded us, and have a firm, distinct, and legal ground to rest upon.

And the occasion, I trust, will justify me in exhorting my countrymen to rally upon and maintain that ground, as the best, if not the only means, of restoring peace and quiet to the country, and maintaining inviolate the integrity of the Union.

And now, fellow-citizens, I cannot bring this communication to a close without invoking you to join me in humble and devout thanks to the Great Ruler of nations, for the multiplied blessings which he has graciously bestowed upon us. His hand, so often visible in our preservation, has stayed the pestilence, saved us from foreign wars and domestic disturbances, and scattered plenty throughout the land.

Our liberties, religious and civil, have been maintained; the fountains of knowledge have all been kept open, and means of happiness widely spread and generally enjoyed, greater than have fallen to the lot of any other nation.

And, while deeply penetrated with gratitude for the past, let us hope that his all-wise Providence will so guide our counsels, as that they shall result in giving satisfaction to our constituents, securing the peace of the country, and adding new strength to the United Government under which we live.

MILLARD FILLMORE.

WASHINGTON, December 2d, 1850.

MARRIAGES.

SEDGWICK—BREEVORT.—At Grace Church, in this city, on the evening of the 25th ultimo, by Rev. Thomas H. Taylor, Rector of the church, Mr. William Ellery Sedgwick, son of the late Robert Sedgwick, to Miss Constance Irving Brevoort, daughter of the late Henry Brevoort, all of this city.

THOMPSON—JONES.—In Wilmington, North Carolina, 18th ultimo, Gen. Waddy Thompson, of South Carolina, to Miss Cornelia A., daughter of Col. John D. Jones, of W.

GILMORE—GRANT.—In Hallowell, Maine, November 19, Hon. Alfred Gilmore, Representative in Congress from the 24th district in Pennsylvania, to Miss Louisa L. daughter of Captain Samuel C. Grant, of H.

SMITH—DICKINSON.—In Alabama, a few days since, Hon. Truman Smith, U. S. Senator, to Miss Dickinson, formally a resident of Litchfield, Conn.

OBITUARY.

COSSUM—In Cleveland, N. Y., November 19th, CAROLINE, wife of Richard Cossum, and sister of William Foster, of the Eagle Tannery, aged 54.

—MRS. CASSUM was a native of England, but had resided in this State sufficiently long to have won the affection and confidence of an extensive acquaintance. She possessed a large amount of mental power, well developed, and piety, of the richest order, which were ever consecrated to human elevation. The poor always found her unostentatiously kind and symthising, and hence they always regarded her an angel of Mercy. In the sick-room she was perfectly at home: ready, prompt, intelligent and benevolent, her visits were esteemed 'God-sends,' and her attendance always eagerly sought. In her the downtrodden found a devoted friend. All forms of opression were destested and held in open defiance.—But while unhallowed monopoly, purse-proud aristocracy, and soul-crushing custom were fearlessly disregarded, American Slavery was held to be the 'sum of all villanies.' The slave had her sympathy, her prayers, and her *unalloyed action*. Her instinct, her inelligence and her Christianity revolted at the idea of this inhuman outrage upon the 'image of God.' Woman has been deeply afflicted; her modesty, purity, and devotion to the true mission of her sex rendered her a guardian spirit of female excellence and gave additional lustre to redeemed womanhood. To the interests of the young she was unweariedly devoted. that when they reached the platform of active life they might redeem humanity and honor their divine paternity. As a friend she had few superiors; confident, discreet, kind, benevolent, and far-seeing, she was always interesting, which made her society greatly valued and her counsels highly prized. But though she wrote her character in lines of living glory upon every department of life in which she moved it was in the domestic retreat where she shone most resplendantly. It was here where the faithful devoted wife and affectionate, self-sacrificing mother was exhibited. It was here where the father and husband might confidently repair for consolation and counsel; it was here where a large and interesting group of children might gather for sympathy and and protection. It was here where her adaptation, her intelligence and her piety appeared most conspicuous. And while scores will gratefully cherish her memory it is a deeply bereaved husband and an irreparably afflicted constellation of sons and daughters who will remember her at all hours, especially in the hours of gloomy twilight and Sabbath stillness. For two long, tedious years she suffered excrutiatingly from a carcinomatus affection which has now proved fatal; but during this extended period her fortitude and urbanity remanied unabated. Her immortal amassed power to the last and, in full possession of a vigourous intellect, she, without a groan, bade adieu to 'all of earth.'—*J. A. Foster*.

DEATHS.

GILLIAT.—In Brooklyn, Nov. 23, Henry Gilliat, second son of the Rev. Francis Viaton, Rector of Grace Church, Brooklyn Heights.

PATON.—At Woodbridge, New Jersey, 5th instant, Mrs. Nancy B. Paton, widow of Col. James Paton, and sister to Joseph Bloomfield, first Governor of New Jersey after the separation from Great Britain, aged 87 years.

JOHNSON.—At his residence, in Scott County, Kentucky, on the 19th ultimo, Hon. Richard M. Johnson, ex-Vice President, in his sixty-fifth year.

ANTI-SLAVERY BAZAAR, IN FANEUIL HALL. BOSTON.

☞ As the Bazaar opens on THURSDAY, the 19th of December, somewhat less than a month remains for the necessary previous arrangements.

The Committee take this opportunity to make a few important suggestions, that they trust none of the friends of the cause will overlook, as on their efficient co-operation, much of the ultimate success of the undertaking will depend.

And, first, there are many individuals scattered throughout Massachusetts, precluded by taste or circumstances from taking any part in many modes of assistance by which the Bazaar is sustained. Many friends say to us, that they have no experience of Bazaars, do not understand what articles are saleable, or at any rate could not supply such, and prefer, on the whole, to aid the work by direct donation. To all such we say, any assistance given the Bazaar in this manner is equally encouraging and acceptable. The Ladies of West Brookfield have for several years sent to the Bazaar a sum of money, which, if expended in articles, would have furnished a table equal in beauty to any table in the Hall supplied by domestic manufacture.—Now we do not expect donations like this from all the towns of Massachusetts; but if the Bazaar received on an average $5 from all the three hundred towns of the State, who does not see how much the pecuniary success of the occasion would be enhanced? We urge that in each town where there is but a single abolitionist, that the effort be made. We say to such, give what you can yourself, collect what you can from others, and at the time of the Bazaar forward it to Faneuil Hall, that all may experience the additional encouragement that springs from united, sympathizing and successful effort. The passage of the Fugitive Slave Bill has opened the eyes and warmed the hearts of thousands. Seek the aid and co-operation of all such, even if they have opposed our work heretofore. Strive to convince all, that, in a work like this, people of all creeds and parties can labor with one heart and one mind.

The second subject to which we would call attention is this: We trust that we may rely on the persons who furnished the savin, spruce, running pine, rhododendron, and other evergreens last year, for the decoration of the Hall, that they will do the same on the present occasion. They best know the kind and quantity required, and in no other way could they aid us so effectually.

We shall also trust to the kindness of those friends who have hitherto supplied the Refreshment Table, and shall we hope, in all respects, be allowed to rely on the same co-operation by which we have been so greatly aided in previous years.

GREAT STATE CONVENTION UPON THE FUGITIVE SLAVE BILL AT SYRACUSE.

There will be a State Convention at the city of Syracuse, on the 7th, 8th and 9th of January next, to consider the Fugitive Slave Bill, recently enacted by Congress.

Let there be previous meetings in all the Assembly districts in the State, and let at least as many delegates be sent, to the proposed Convention, as there are members sent to the Assembly.

Similar Conventions are to be held in other States, and we trust before the close of January, there will be a Convention of the free States, to withstand this whelming tide of oppression.

Poetry.

From The Literary World.

MELODY.

BY RALPH HOYT.

'Tis said, sweet Mercy from above,
Came down to teach us how to love,
And long she strove with mystic skill
Her holy mission to fulfil.
Her angel-pinions knew no rest
For wafting her to every breast;
No cottage-home, nor palace fair,
Nor crowded mart, but she was there.
Yet street, and lane, and park, and green,
She haunted still, though all unseen;
Still whispering low to every ear,
Help, help, to wipe away a tear;
Some mourner's blessing to secure,
Oh, sooth the sad, supply the poor!
Nor vain her prayer; for tear and sigh
She drew from many a passer-by:
Made each reluctant purse to feel
The magic of her sweet appeal,
Till every child of sorrow there
Could tell her wing was in the air.

Yet could not still her gentle sway
Compel the sordid to obey;
The streams of love to amply pour,
Till duty could demand no more.
How strove she with her heavenly art
To touch the spring of every heart,
And open every portal wide
For sympathy's outflowing tide.
But ah! the generous hearts were few
That helped her hallowed task to do.
Her piteous tale the more she told,
Remoter seemed the hoards of gold;
Nor prayer, nor tear, nor Christian name,
Constrained to cancel Mercy's claim.
In grief, as saith the further tale,
That love on earth could not prevail,
Her radiant wings she heavenward spread,
Breathed a despairing sigh, and sped.

Long, the celestial hills among,
In pensive melodies had sung
The sister angels, many a lay
Of her, the fairest, far away;
Yet mingling oft a joyous strain
For earth, by her made glad again:
Man only coveting to know
Where he a blessing may bestow;
Each rivalling other but to prove
Heroic most in deeds of love.
None now to grasp with selfish might
The widow's and the orphan's right;
None to withhold the hireling's meed,
And stint him in his hour of need;
None, for the toil of woman fair,
By day's long sun, and taper's glare,
With breaking heart and weary eye,
To grant her only—leave to die;
Imploring penury no more
Unkindly spurned from every door;
But all fraternal as above,
Since mercy taught the law of love.
So mused the angel bands, when lo,
Came soaring mournfully and slow,
Bright in the awful depths afar,
As 'twere, a lonely, Wandering Star!

Was silent each seraphic lyre;
Seemed not a bosom to respire;
Intent to mark that wonder's flight,
Up-speeding to the world of light.
But rapture thrilled all harps anew,
As nearer still the vision drew,
And each discerning, eager eye,
Could Mercy's matchless form descry;—
A mighty shout shook heaven's dome,
Hail, weary sister!—welcome home!

Alas that mortal wrong should rise
To sadden e'en the sinless skies.
A tear in heaven! oh, precious gem,
World, for thy fallen diadem,
Couldst thou the regal emblem wear,
And let the jewel glitter there;
The pearl from Mercy's eye that fell,
And told the grief she could not tell.
Electric love! One stroke of woe,
And furthest heaven felt the blow!
All heedless, or of rank, or birth,
Archangel, and the babe of earth,
Forth from their haunts by hill and dell,
Swift to a countless throng they swell,
Each some immortal balm to pour,
To bid one bosom—sigh no more.

August in conclave. The high quest,
Shall Mercy more be Mortal's guest;
Or, doth it seem to heavenly ken
How she may move the hearts of men?
Then beautiful, from her repose,
The missionary angel rose.
Soft accents, too divinely sweet,
For bard of earth to e'er repeat,
Raining around in fragrant showers,
As budding trees their ripened flowers.

Ah, leave not yon apostate race,
To mourn the forfeit of your grace;
But me with one new power inspire;
Then pausing, touched her golden lyre,
And far the listening ranks along,
Poured a full tide of rapturous song,
Till heaven's remotest valley rang
With the sweet song that Mercy sang;
That power which thus but angels know,
Grant me on mortals to bestow,
And down again to cleave my way
To win them by the mighty sway,
Of love and melody combined,
The heaven of brotherhood to find.
She ceased. And swift approval ran,
Let Mercy strive again with man,
And lend the strains she warbles here,
To melt the heart, and start the tear,
Till rivers of relief shall flow,
For every child of want and woe.
Then joyful sprang the glorious maid,
Aloft, in robes of light arrayed;
Her banner,—Peace on Earth, unfurled,
And sped again to bless the world.

As icy winter yields to spring,
When southern winds are on the wing:
Or, as in summer's fond embrace
Warm blushes tint fair nature's face;
So nations felt the winds of love,
And pure emotions from above,
As from the happy realms on high
Descending Mercy hovered nigh,
Inclining potently the soul
To fervent charity's control;
And shed her holy influence o'er
The myriad hearts so hard before.
She trod again the terrene sphere,
Dispensing solace far and near;
Imparting oft the gifts of song,
In meet degrees, her course along;
Till softly on an humble child,
She laid her gentle hand, and smiled,
And said,—Receive, fair sister mine,
The might of Melody divine!
Be thine, with peerless seraph-voice;
To make the sorrowing earth rejoice;
Thy chiefest mission still to be,
A glorious Almoner for me!
Then hand in hand they twain advanced.
And earth, and air, and sea entranced!
And still, resistless, side by side,
With holy purpose, on they glide,
A mortal, and immortal, pair;
All viewless one, and one all fair,
By love and melody, made brave,
A world to bless, delight, and save.

Miscellany.

From Dickens' 'Household Words.'

THE MYSTERIES OF A TEA-KETTLE.

At one of Mr. Bagges's small scientific tea-parties, Mr. Harry Wilkinson delivered to the worthy gentleman a lecture, based principally on reminiscences of the Royal Institution, and of a series of lectures delivered there, by PROFESSOR FARADAY, addressed to children and young people. For it is not the least of the merits of that famous chemist and great man, PROFESSOR FARADAY, that he delights to make the mightiest subject clear to the simplest capacity; and that he shows his mastery of Nature in nothing more than in being thoroughly imbued with the spirit of her goodness and simplicity.

This particular Lecture was on Natural Philosophy in its bearings on a kettle. The entertainment of a "Night with Mr. Bagges" was usually extemporaneous. It was so on this occasion. The footman brought in the tea-kettle. "Does it boil?" demanded Mr. Bagges.

"It have biled, Sir," answered the domestic.

"Have biled, Sir!" repeated Mr. Bagges. "*Have* biled! And what if it has 'biled,' or *boiled*, as I desire you will say in future? What is that to the purpose? Water may be frozen, you simpleton, notwithstanding it *has* boiled. Was it boiling, Sir, eh? when you took it off the fire? That is the question, Sir."

"Yes, Sir, that was what I mean to say, Sir," replied Thomas.

"Mean to say, Sir! Then why didn't you say it, Sir? Eh? There—no, don't put it on, Sir; hold it still. Harry, reach me the thermometer," said Mr. Bagges, putting on his spectacles. "Let me see. The boiling point of water is two hundred and—what?"

"Two hundred and twelve, Fahrenheit," answered Master Wilkinson, "if commonly pure, and boiled in a metallic vessel, and under a pressure of the atmosphere amounting to fifteen pounds on every square inch of surface, or when the barometer stands at thirty inches."

"Gracious, what a memory that boy has!" exclaimed his uncle. "Well; now this water in the kettle—eh?—why, this is not above one hundred and fifty degrees. There, Sir, now set it on the fire, and don't bring me up cold water to make tea with again; or else," added Mr. Bagges, making a vague attempt at a joke, "or else—eh?—you will get yourself into hot water."

Mr. Thomas was seized with a convulsion in the chest, which he checked by suddenly applying his open hand to his mouth, the effort distending his cheeks and causing his eyes to protrude in a very ridiculous manner, whilst Mr. Bagges disguised his enjoyment of the effects of his wit in a cough.

"Now let me see," said the old gentleman, musingly contemplating the vessel simmering on the fire; "how is it, eh, Harry, you said the other day that a kettle boils?"

"La!" interrupted Mrs. Wilkinson, who was of the party, "why, of course, by the heat of the coals, and by blowing the fire, if it is not hot enough."

"Aha!" cried her brother, "that's not the way *we* account for things, Harry, my boy, eh? Now, convince your mother; explain the boiling of a kettle to her: come."

"A kettle boils," said Harry, "by means of the action of currents."

"What are you talking about? Boiling a plum-pudding in a tea-kettle!" exclaimed the mystified mamma.

"Currents of heated particles—of particles of hot water," Harry explained. "Suppose you put your fire on your kettle—on the lid of it—instead of your kettle on your fire—what then?"

"You would be a goose," said his mother.

"Exactly so—or a gosling"—rejoined her son; "the kettle would not boil. Water is a bad conductor of heat. Heat passes through the substance of water with very great difficulty. Therefore, it would have a hard matter to get from the top of a kettle of water to the bottom. Then how does it so easily get from the bottom to the top?" The law of expansion of fluids and gases by heat. This makes the currents that I spoke of just now, mamma; and I should have spelt the word to explain to you that I didn't mean plums. You know what a draught is?"

"I am sorry to say I do," Mr. Bagges declared with much seriousness, instinctively carrying his hand to the region of the human body from the Latin for which is derived the term, Lumbago.

"Well," pursued Harry, "a draught is a current of air. Such currents are now passing up the chimney, and simply owing to that trifling circumstance, we are able to sit here now without being stifled and poisoned."

"Goodness!" ejaculated Mrs Wilkinson.

"To be sure. The fire, in burning, turns into gases, which are rank poison—carbonic acid, for one; sulphurous acid, for another. Hold your nose over a shovelful of hot cinders if you doubt the fact. The gases produced by the fire expand; they increase in bulk without getting heavier, so much so that they become lighter in proportion than the air, and then they rise, and this rising of hot air is what is meant by heat going upwards. The currents of hot air that go up the chimney in this way have currents of cold air rushing after them to supply their place. When you heat water, currents are formed just as when you heat gas or air. The heated portion of water rises, and some colder water comes down in its place; and these movements of the water keep going on till the whole bulk of it is equally hot throughout."

"Well, now," interrupted Mr. Bagges, "I dare say this is all very true, but how do you prove it?"

"Prove that water is heated by the rising and falling of hot currents? Get a long, slender glass jar. Put a little water, colored with indigo, or anything you like, into the bottom of it. Pour clear water upon the colored, gently, so as not to mix the two, and yet nearly to fill the jar. Float a little spirit of wine on the top of the water, and set fire to it. Let it blaze away as long as you like; the colored water will remain steady at the bottom of the jar. But hold the flame of a spirit-lamp under the jar, and the colored water will rise and mix with the clear, in very little time longer than it would take you to say Harry Wilkinson."

"Ah! So the water gets colored throughout for the same reason that it gets heated throughout," Mr. Bagges observed, "and when it gets thoroughly hot—what then?"

"Then it boils. And what is boiling?"

"Bubbling," suggested the young philosopher's mamma.

"Yes; but ginger-beer bubbles," said Harry, "but you wouldn't exactly call that boiling. Boiling is the escaping of steam. That causes the bubbling; so the bubbling of water over the fire is only the sign that the water boils. But what occasions the escape of the steam?"

"The heat, of course—the—what is the right word?—the caloric," answered Mr. Bagges.

"True; but what heat? Why, the excess of heat over two hundred and twelve degrees—taking that as the average boiling point of water. You can heat water up to that point, and it remains water; but every degree of heat you cause to pass into it above that, turns a quantity of the water into steam; and flies off in the steam, unless the steam is hindered from escaping by extraordinary pressure. Blow the fire under that kettle as much as you will, and you will make the water boil faster, but you won't make it a bit hotter than two hundred and twelve degrees."

"Well, to be sure!" Mrs. Wilkinson exclaimed.

"If water," continued Harry, "could keep on getting hotter and hotter above the boiling point, why, we might have our potatoes charred in the pot, or our mutton boiled to a cinder. When water is confined in a strong vessel—and strong it must be to prevent a tremendous blow-up—confined, I say, so that no steam can escape, it may be heated almost red-hot; and there is a vessel made for heating water under pressure, called Papin's Digestor, which will digest almost anything."

"What an enviable apparatus!" exclaimed Mr. Bagges.

"Well," resumed Harry; "so the boiling point of water depends on the degree of force which the air or what not is pressing on its surface with. The higher the spot on which you boil your water, the lower the point it boils at. Therefore, water boiling at the top of a mountain is not so hot as water boiling at the mountain's base. The boiling point of water on the summit of Mont Blanc, is as low as one hundred and eighty-four degrees. So, if water must be at two hundred and twelve degrees, to make good tea, don't choose too high a hill to build a temperance hall on. The heavier, also, the air is, from the quantity of moisture in it, the hotter water becomes before it boils. If the atmosphere were carbonic acid gas, water would get much hotter without boiling than it can under"—

"Present arrangements," interposed Mr. Bagges.

"Consisting of a mixture of nitrogen and oxygen," continued Harry. "Water requires only a very low heat to make it boil in an exhausted receiver, out of which the air has been pumped, so as to leave none to press upon its surface. Owing to boiling depending upon pressure, you can actually make water boil by means of cold."

"What next?" sighed Mrs. Wilkinson.

"You can, indeed. Put a little boiling water in a salad-oil flask; so that the flask may be a quarter full, say. Cork the flask tightly. The boiling stops; and the upper three-fourths of the flask are full of vapor. Squirt a jet of ice-cold water upon the flask, above where the water is, and the water below will instantly begin to boil. The reason why, is this. The vapor in the flask presses on the surface of the hot water. The cold condenses the vapor—turns it back to water. That takes off the pressure for the time; and then the hot water directly flies into vapor, and boils, and so on, till it cools down too low to boil any longer. What reduces the boiling point of water on a hill or a mountain is, that the pressure of the atmosphere decreases as you ascend. A rise of five hundred and thirty feet in height above the level of the sea, makes a difference of one degree; so, give me a kettle of water and a thermometer, and I'll tell you exactly how near the moon we are."

"I should'nt think one could make good hot mixed punch up in a balloon, now," observed Mr. Bagges, reflectively.

"Then," Harry proceeded, "it requires more heat to make water boil in a glass vessel than it does in a metal one. A metal vessel's inner surface is made up of very small points and dents. Scratching the inside of the glass so as to give it a roughness something like what the metal has, makes the boiling point lower; and a few iron filings thrown into water boiling in glass at two hundred and fourteen degrees, will bring it down to two hundred and twelve. The filings, and the roughness of the glass are so many more points for the heat to pass into the water from, and form steam, and the water does not cling to them so hard as it clings to a smooth surface. Throw a lot of hay into a pan of hot water, and it makes a quantity of steam rise directly; and I have heard a doctor say that some poor people are in the habit of giving themselves cheap steam-baths by this means.

"A very good thing for rheumatic pains, I should think; certainly a much more rational remedy than patent medicines or Government poison," Mr. Bagges remarked.

"There are some salts," continued Harry, "which, if dissolved in water, will prevent it from boiling till it is heated to two hundred and sixty-four degrees, as if they held the water back from flying into steam. So, then, the boiling of water may be hindered, more or less, by pressure from without, and attraction from within. The boiling point of water depends on another important fact which the kettle always mentions before it boils, although we don't all of us understand the kettle's language. The singing of the kettle tells us"—

"That the water is going to boil," interrupted mamma.

"Yes, and that water contains air. The singing of the kettle is the noise made by the escape of the air, which is driven off by the heat. The air sticks and hangs in the water, till the heat expands it and makes it rise. Put a glass of water under the receiver of an air-pump, and exhaust the receiver. As you pump, the water begins to bubble, as if it were boiling; but the bubbles are the air contained in the water, being pumped out. The air-bubbles act like wedges between the little invisible drops that make up the whole water. If it were not for them, the water would be a mass which would hold together so hard that it would not go into steam, or boil, till it was heated to two hundred and seventy degrees, as may be proved by boiling some water quite deprived of air. And not only that, but when it did boil, it would boil all at once, and blow up with a tremendous explosion; which would be a still greater inconvenience in boiling a kettle." [illegible] would not be quite so great a blessing to us as you might think. Of course, you know, uncle, I don't mean to say that there is any advantage in the impurity of such water as the Thames, except when used for the purpose of fertilising the earth. I am speaking of water so pure as to contain no air. Water of such severe purity would be very unmanageable stuff. No fishes could live in it, for one thing. I have already given you one good reason why it would be unsuitable to our kettle; and another is, that it would not be good to drink. Then water, as we find it in the world, has a very useful and accommodating disposition to find its own level. Pump all the air out of water, however, and it loses this obliging character in a great measure. Suppose I take a bent glass tube, and fill one arm of it with airless water. Then I turn the tube mouth upwards, and if the water were common water, it would instantly run from one arm into the other, and stand at the same level in both. But if the water has been exhausted of its air, it remains, most of it, in the one arm, and won't run till I give the table a smart rap, and shake it. So, but for the air contained in water, we could not make the water run up and down hill as we do. If water were deprived of air, London would be almost deprived of water."

"And water," observed Mr. Bagges, "would be robbed of a very valuable property."

"Good again," uncle. "Now, if we could see through the kettle, we should be able to observe the water boiling in it, which is a curious sight when looked into. To examine water boiling, we must boil the water in a glass vessel—a long tube is the best—heated with a spirit lamp. Then first you see the water in motion, and the air bubbles being driven off by the heat. As the water gets hotter, other bubbles appear, rising from the bottom of the tube. They go up for a little way, and then they shrink, and by the time they get to the top of the water, you can hardly distinguish them. These are bubbles of steam, and they get smaller as they rise, because at first the water is colder above than below in proportion to the distance from the flame, and the cold gradually condenses the bubbles. But when the water gets thoroughly hot, the bubbles grow larger and rise quicker, and go of the same size right up to the top of the water, and there escape—if you choose to let them. And steam was allowed to escape so for many many ages, was'nt it uncle, before it was set to work to spin cotton for the world, and take us to America within a fortnight, and whirl us over the ground as the crow flies, and almost at a crow's pace."

"For all which," remarked Mr. Bagges, "we have principally to thank what 's his name."

"Watt *was* his name, I believe, uncle. Well; heat turns water into steam, and I dare say I need not tell you that a quantity of water becoming steam, fills an immense deal more space than it did as mere water. Cold turns the steam back into water, and the water fill the same space as it did before. Water, in swelling into steam and shrinking back into water again, moves, of course, twice, and mighty notions these are, and mighty uses are made of them, I should rather think."

"I believe you, my boy," said Mr. Bagges.

"And now," asked Harry, "have you any idea of what a deal of heat there is in steam?"

"It is hot enough to scald you," answered his mamma, "I know that."

"Yes; and hot enough, too, to cook potatoes. But there is much more heat in it than that comes to. Take a kettle of cold water. See at what degree the thermometer stands in the water. Put the kettle on the fire and observe how long it takes to boil. It will boil at two hundred and twelve degrees; and therefore, during the time it has taken to boil, there has gone into it the difference of heat between two hundred and twelve degrees and the degree it stood at when first put on the fire. Keep up the same strength of fire, so that the heat may continue to go into the water at the same rate. Let the water boil quite away, and note how long it is in doing so. You can then calculate how much heat has gone into the water while the water has been boiling away. You will find that quantity of heat great enough to have made the water red-hot, if all the water, and all the heat, had remained in the kettle. But the water in your kettle will have continued at two hundred and twelve degrees to the last drop, and all the steam that it has turned into will not have been hotter—according to the thermometer—than two hundred and twelve degrees; whereas a red heat is one thousand degrees. The difference between two hundred and twelve degrees and one thousand degrees is seven hundred and eighty-eight degrees; and what has become of all this heat? Why, it is entirely contained in the steam, though it does not make the steam hotter. It lies hid in the steam, and therefore it is called latent heat. When the steam is condensed, all that latent heat comes out of it, and can be felt, and the quantity of it can be measured by a thermometer. The warmth that issues from steam-pipes used to warm a house, is the latent heat of the steam that escapes as the steam turns back to water."

"Latent heat! latent heat!" repeated Mr. Bagges, scratching his head. "Eh? Now, that latent heat always puzzles me. Latent, lying hid. But how can you hide heat? When the zany in the pantomime hides the red-hot poker in his pocket, he cauterises his person. How—eh?—how can heat be latent?"

"Why the word heat has two meanings, uncle. In the first place, it means hotness. Hotness cannot be latent, as the clown finds when he pockets the poker. In the second place, heat means a something the nature of which we don't know, which is the cause of hotness, and also the cause of another effect. Whilst it is causing that other effect, it does not cause hotness. That other effect which heat causes in the instance of steam, is keeping water in the form of steam. The heat that there is in steam, over and above two hundred and twelve degrees, is employed in this way. It is wholly occupied in preserving the water in an expanded state, and can't cause the mercury in the thermometer to expand and rise as well. For the same reason, it could give you no feeling of hotness above what boiling water would—if you had the nerve to test it. Whilst it is making steam continue to be steam, it is latent. When the steam becomes water again, it has no longer that work to do, and is set free. Free heat is what is commonly understood by heat. This is the heat which cooks our victuals, the heat we feel, the heat that singes Mr. Merriman. Latent heat is heat that doesn't warm, singe, or cook, because it is otherwise engaged. If you press gas suddenly into a fluid, the latent heat of the gas is set free. You seem to squeeze it out. Indeed, the same thing happens, if you violently force any substance into a closer form all at once. Everything appears to have more or less latent heat in it, between its little particles, keeping them at certain distances from each other. Compress the particles within a smaller compass, and a part of the latent heat escapes, as if it were no longer wanted. When a substance in a compressed state expands on a sudden, it draws in heat, on the other hand. When a lady bathes her forehead with eau-de-Cologne to cure a headache, the heat of the head enters the eau-de-Cologne, and becomes latent in it whilst it evaporates. If you make steam under high pressure, you can heat it much above two hundred and twelve degrees. Suppose you let off steam, so compressed and heated, by a wide hole, from the boiler, and put your hand into it as it rushes out"——

"What? Why you'd scald your hand off!" cried Mr. Bagges.

"No you wouldn't the steam rushes out tremendously hot, but it expands instantly so very much, that the heat in it directly becomes latent in a great measure; which cools it down sufficiently to allow you to hold your hand in it without its hurting you. But then you would have to mind where you held your hand; because where the steam began to condense again, it would be boiling hot."

"I had rather take your word for the experiment than try it, young gentlemen," Mr. Bagges observed.

"Another very curious thing," proceeded Harry "in regard to boiling, has been discovered lately. A kettle might be too hot to boil water in. Take a little bar of silver, heated very highly; dip it into water. At first, you have no boiling, and you don't have any at all till the silver has cooled some degrees. Put a drop of water into a platinum dish, heated in the same way, and it will run about without boiling till the heat diminishes; and then it bursts into steam. M. Boutigny, the French chemist, made this discovery. Vapor forms between the drop of water and the red-hot metal, and, being a bad conductor of heat, keeps the heat of the metal for some time from flowing into the water. Owing to this, water, and mercury even, may be frozen in a red hot vessel if the experiment is manged cleverly. A little more than a couple of centuries ago, this would have been thought witchcraft."

"And the philosopher," added Mr. Bagges, [illegible]

"The spheroidal state," answered Harry." However that is a state water does not get into in a kettle, because kettles are not allowed to become red hot, except when they are put carelessly on the fire with no water in them, or suffered to remain there after the water has boiled quite away!"

"Which is ruination to kettles," Mrs Wilkinson observed.

"Of course it is, mamma, because at a red heat iron begins to unite with oxygen, or to rust. Another thing that injures kettles is the fur that collects in them. All water in common use contains more or less of earthy and other salts. In boiling, these things separate from the water and gradually form a fur or crust inside the kettle or boiler,"

"And a nice job it is to get rid of it," said his mamma.

"Well: chemistry has lessened that difficulty," replied Harry. "The fur is mostly carbonate of lime. In that case, all you have to do is to boil some sal amoniac—otherwise muriate, or properly hydrochlorate of ammonia—in the furred vessel.—the hydrochloric acid unites with the lime, and the carbonic acid goes to the ammonia. Both the compounds formed in this way dissolve and wash away; and so you may clean the foulest boiler or kettle.—This is a rather important discovery; for the effect of fur in a kettle is to oppose the passage of heat, and therefore to occasion the more fuel to be required to boil water in it, which is a serious waste and expense when you have a large steam-boiler to deal with. Dr Faraday mentions the case of a Government steamer that went to Trieste, and during the voyage had so much fur formed in her boiler as to oblige all her coal to be consumed, and then the engineers were forced to burn spars, rigging bulkheads, and even chopped cables, and to use up every shaving of spare timber in the ship. Soot underneath the kettle, as well as fur inside it, is a hindrance to boiling, as it is a bad conductor; and that is the reason why one can bear to hold a kettle of hot water, which is very sooty on its under surface, on the flat of the hand. So a black kettle doesn't give out its heat readily to what touches it, and so far it is good to keep water hot; but it gets rid of heat in another way; as I dare say you know, uncle."

"Eh?" said Mr. Bagges, "why, what?—no—I did know something about it the other day—but I've such a memory!—and—eh?—no—I've quite forgotten it."

"By radiation, you know. All warm bodies are constantly giving off rays of heat, as shining ones are giving off rays of light, although the heat-rays are invisible."

"How do we know that?" asked Mr. Bagges.

"Get a couple of concave mirrors—a sort of copper basins, polished inside. Stand them face to face, some yards apart. Put a hot iron ball—not red hot—in the focus of one mirror. Put a bit of phosphorus in the focus of the other. The phosphorus will take fire; though without the mirrors you might place it much nearer the hot iron, and yet it would not burn. So we know that there are rays of heat, because we can reflect them as we can rays of light. Some things radiate better than others. Those that have bright metal surfaces radiate worst, though such are what are used for reflectors. If their surfaces are blackened or roughened, they radiate better. A bright kettle gives off fewer rays of heat than a black one, and so far, is better to keep water hot in. But then, on the other hand, it yields more heat to the air, or the hob or hearth that it stands upon—if colder than itself. The bright kettle gives off heat in one way and the black in another I don't know at what comparative rate exactly."

"Six of one, and half-a-dozen of the other," Mr. Bagges suggested.

"Now look at the wonderful relations of the kettle, uncle!"

"Relations?—Eh?—what the pot and the saucepan?" said Mr. Bagges.

"Oh, oh, uncle! No; its relations to the pressure of the atmosphere and every cause that affects it—to the conveyance, and conduction and radiation of heat—to latent heat or caloric, to the properties of water, to chemical decomposition—and to steam and its astonishing marvels, present and to come!"

"Well," said Mr. Bagges, "it is wonderful; and the kettle certainly is very respectably connected.—Eh? And I hope to profit by the subject of our conversation; and so, I say, pour me out a cup of tea."

From the Pittsburg Saturday Visiter

WOMEN'S RIGHTS CONVENTION AND THE PEOPLE OF COLOR.

DEAR MRS. SWISSHELM:—In the last *Visiter*, you say of a resolution relating to people of color, offered by Mr. Wendell Phillips in the late Convention of women at Worcester, Massachusetts:—

"We are pretty nearly out of patience with the dogged perseverance with which so many of our Reformers persist in their attempt to do everything at once."

And again:—

"In a Woman's Right Convention, the question of color had no right to a hearing."

It seemed as though the usual kindly spirit and good judgment of the *Visiter*, were a little wanting in these two utterances. I should not have noticed it at all in most of the public journals—indeed, I neither know nor care what but few of them do say. For, I should no more think of having them in my house, political or religious, than I would of innoculating the family with the foulest Leprosy that ever unjointed the bones of a son of Abraham. But your *Visiter* finds ready entrance and cheerful greeting, so that we are a little solicitous about its bearing towards the *few* other newspaper guests we have invited.

"*Dogged and Perseverance,*" are two ugly words standing together, and Mr. Phillips has ever been very watchful to prevent any other topic from creeping to whatever platform he occupied, devoted to any particular reform. And those two words look strange, indeed, to some of us, standing in connection with his name and the Resolution to which you have taken exception.

But by way of explanation, (or if you please, apology) permit me to say that colored persons are held in such estimation in this country, that you must specify them, whenever, or wherever you mean to include them.

Lyceums, circuses, menageries, ball-rooms, billiard-rooms, conventions, everything, "*the Public are respectfully invited to attend.*" But who ever dreamed that "*the public*" meant anything colored? From church and theatre; from stage-coach, steam-ship, and creeping canal boat; from the infant school, law school and Theological Seminary; from Museum, Athenæum and public Garden, the colored race are either excluded altogether, or are admitted only by sufferance or some *very special* arrangement, and under disadvantages to which no white person would, or should submit, for a moment.

Free Masons must be white, both face and apron. Odd Fellows, too, must be constitutionally light of skin, and even the Sons of Temperance and Daughters likewise must be bleached to the popular complexional standard, or they are beyond the reach of salvation.

The Methodist discipline provides for "separate colored Conferences." The Episcopal church shuts out some of its own most worthy ministers from clerical recognition, on account of their color. Nearly all denominations of religionists, have either a written or unwritten law to the same effect. In Boston even, there are evangelical churches, whose pews are positively forbidden by corporate mandate from being sold to any but "*respectable white persons.*" Our incorporated cemeteries are often, if not always deeded in the same manner. Even our humblest village grave yards generally have either a "negro corner," or refuse colored corpses altogether, and did our power extend to heaven and hell, we should have complexional salvation and colored damnation, unless we could first blot the unfortunate, unfashionable race altogether and forever out of existence.

We have striven to separate the Etheopian from all claim to human recognition and human sympathy. No body but Abolitionists ever mean *colored people*, no matter how often they speak of "*the public*," or of their "fellow citizens," or "fellow sinners."

We have proscribed our colored brethren every way—everywhere. And under the late Fugitive Slave Law, every colored man is to be presumed a slave, unless there is proof positive to the contrary—and if any one is only claimed and sworn to as a slave, such proof is at once made impossible. Before this law was enacted, his life was a lingering torture—before, we were killing him by exclusion and oppression, now we are murdering him with fear. We have barbed the iron arrows that pierced him. We have poisoned the fangs which were already tearing him in pieces—we have heated red hot the chains that bound him as in adamant before. We have separated him from us by a gulf [illegible] are concerned, almost everywhere, the horse and hound are as human as he.

And his race know it, and *feel it*, as we cannot. Even the Women's Convention demonstrated this, for scarcely a colored person, man or woman appeared in it.

On the large committees appointed to carry out the plans of the Convention, embracing very many persons in all, not a single colored member was placed. It is to be presumed that no body thought of it, for we are not expected to think of colored people at all.

Under such circumstances, is it strange, is it an unpardonable sin, is it "dogged perseverance" to declare in a Convention called to demand and extend the rights of women, that we mean women of sable as well as sallow complexion? of the carved in ebony as well as the chisseled in ivory? If we did thus mean, it was absolutely demanded that we say it, to have it known—it would not have been known without. If we did not thus mean, the Convention should not have been held, or being held, it would deserve only the scorn and contempt of every friend of God and his children.

Color was not discussed there—it need not have been. But it was needed that the declaration be made, in regard to it. That *any* women have rights, will scarcely be believed. But that *colored* women have rights, would never have been thought of, without a specific declaration.

Most truly, yours,
PARKER PILLSBURY.
CONCORD, N. H., Nov. 11th, 1850.

From the Pittsburg Saturday Visiter.

WOMAN'S RIGHTS AND THE COLOR QUESTION.

WE give Mr. Pillsbury's article on this subject, and if *we* failed to prove the bad policy of linking these two questions, Mr. Pillsbury will surely succeed. Everything he says about the exclusion of colored people from places and positions they have a right to occupy, is so much against uniting their cause to that of woman. The women of this glorious Republic are sufficiently oppressed without linking their cause to that of the slave. The slave is sufficiently oppressed without binding him to the stake which has ever held woman in a state of bondage. There is no kind of reason why the American prejudice against color should be invoked to sink woman into a lower state of degradation than that she already *enjoys*—no kind of reason why the car of emancipation, for the slave, should have been clogged by tying to its wheels the most unpopular reform that ever was broached, by having all the women in the world fastened to its axle as a drag.

Nothing can ever persuade us that the union of the two questions has not injured both. As to our applying the words "dogged perseverance" to any one in particular, we did not even notice by whom the objectionable resolution had been offered. We meant the Convention, and nearly all the reformers with whom we are acquainted; but, if a personal application be thought necessary, we freely make it to Mr. Pillsbury himself. You, sir, show dogged perseverance in insisting that our starving seamstresses shall not strike for higher wages unless they put in a protest in favor of the boot-blacks—that woman shall not strike off her shackles until she can liberate every man that wears one—that she shall take no step forward until she overcomes a prejudice which oppresses another branch of humanity. You, Mr. Pillsbury, and the rest of your male coadjutors, enjoying all the rights for which women contend, have not been able to conquer the American prejudice against color, and now you expect that woman, crippled, helpless, bound, shall do what you have failed to perform with the free use of all your powers and faculties!

We are told that those who would be free themselves must strike the blow; but the action of the Convention adds an improvement, and now those who would be free must strike for themselves and everybody else in bonds. This is as if you said to one of a number of drowning people, "You shall not swim and save your own life, unless you carry with you all the others."

The question of woman's right to equal privileges with the other sex, is like a little boat launched upon a tempestuous river. It *may* carry a woman into a safe harbor, but it is not strong enough to bear the additional weight of all the colored men in creation. True, they may get on board, if they covet the honor of the company already there; but the chance is the whole concern sinks. As an individual we have done all we felt able to aid the colored man. We would still lend him an oar or show him how to make one; but we do not want him in our boat. Let him row his own craft? He is as large and strong as a woman; and if we judge him rightly, he would prefer the exercise, and separate quarters, to getting into such very bad company.—If he would not—if he is either so lazy or so selfish that he would peril the life of others for a poor chance of saving his own, he is not worth saving, and we would very cooly cut the fingers off such a loafer, throw him back into the water and see him go down.

As for colored woman, all the interest they have in this reform is *as women*. All it can do for them is to raise them to the level of men of their own class. Then as that class rises let them rise with it. We only claim for a white wood-sawyer's wife that she is as good as a white wood-sawyer—a blacksmith's mother is as good as a blacksmith—a lawyer's sister is as good as a lawyer; at least this is our way of understanding this question; but had that Convention seen fit to specify any particular class of women—women with black faces, red noses, or brown hair—it had a right to do so; but it had no more right to discuss the question of the position of colored people as a class, than of farmers, or mechanics, or Dutch or Irish. The call was explicit. It was to discuss the rights of *Sex*. We signed that call—a call for a Woman's Rights Convention—and had no thought it was to be converted into an abolition meeting. With quite as much propriety it might have been turned into a Temperance or Law Reform meeting, or a meeting to express sympathy with the Hungarian refugees. We repeat again the color question had no right to a hearing there. We never would have signed a call for the conjoint discussion of these two questions, or of any other two questions. We feel as if our name had been used for a purpose for which we did not give it, and we know others of the signers of that call who are in the same predicament. It was a breach of trust, and one we shall remember when our name is asked for to another call.

To us it is a matter of great wonder that any *friend* of woman's elevation should link her cause to that of the negro in America, or that any friend of the negro should be willing that his cause should be identified with hers. True, our Constitution manufacturers have agreed in uniting the two. Negroes and Woman are placed upon the same level in nearly all our Constitutions. Their cases are disposed of in the same sentence, "White male citizens," to show that two such insignificant portions of creation as women and dark skinned men were not worth two sentences in the immortal compositions of the Solons who wrote them; but these Solons we look upon as the *enemies* of both proscribed classes, and can see no reason why their *friends* should follow in the footsteps of such "illustrious predecessors."

Gleanings from Foreign Publications

——KINKEL, the Professor of Bonn, who was sentenced to death for the share he took in the Baden insurrection, and has since been kept in close confinement, has escaped from the House of Correction.

——THE Emperor of Russia has resolved to have copies, in default of the originals, of all the great paintings of the old masters of all schools; and he is at present causing to be copied in Venice two great works of Titian, "The Assumption," and "The Martyrdom of St. Stephen." His Majesty pays liberally, as much as £800 or even £1,000 per copy. For sixteen portraits or sketches of Titian he gave not less than £20,000.

——THE GREAT SLAVE DEPOT.—"Whydah, as the English name the place, from the pronunciation of the Portuguese designation, 'Ayudah,' is the great outlet for the slaves supplied by the chief of Dahomey, whose city bearing that name has often been described by African travellers, and whose remorseless character has gained for him an intimacy with every species of cruelty and crime. One traveller relates 'that his city is surrounded by a wall,' as indeed almost all African towns of any consequence are, 'upon the top of which are placed, at very short intervals, human skulls, being those of prisoners taken in battle, but whom he could not sell as slaves:' this is the usual course observed towards prisoners so taken, for if they are likely to remain long on hand, then they are murdered to avoid the trouble, it can hardly be said the expense, of keeping them. It is very seldom, if ever, that the chiefs sell their own subjects: the system is this—two chiefs [illegible] the other country, accordingly as they may fall into their hands respectively.

"At this time, however, the demand for slaves overcame the supply, and ships were waiting at all the anchorages to receive them, therefore the unhappy negroes were doomed to a miserable life of foreign Slavery, instead of undergoing a more humane massacre to decorate the walls of Dahomey, or some other city of equal celebrity."—*Sir Henry Huntley, in "Peregrine Scramble."*

——CHARACTER OF THE "TIMES."—Mr. Miall, in his recent work on the "British Churches and People," says:—"I select the *Times* journal as an illustration, and although all others fall below it in power, many others resemble it in its utter want of virtuous principle. Now, I ask any religious man to watch the influence of that organ upon his own mind, and I venture to predict that its tendency will be felt to be much as I am about to describe. He will be tempted to look at all the realities of life as matters which it is lawful to play with as convenience may dictate. Whatever veneration for truth he may entertain will gradually become less sensitive, and he will come to consider lying, as theft was regarded by the Spartans, to be infamous only when done in a bungling style. He will perceive in himself a disposition to sneer at all the sterner exemplifications of virtue, to accept calumny as naturally due to heroism, to make light of moral principles when they stand in the way of party objects, to disbelieve in human magnanimity, to make grimaces at all the grander passages of a people's history, to smile most obsequiously upon what the gospel condemns, and jest most mockingly at what the gospel enforces. In short, if he were to yield himself up to the full effect of the deleterious atmosphere with which that journal would surround him, he would sink into a talker upon all conceivable subjects, without faith, without heart, without conscience, without a single object before him, or guiding principle within him, to make his talent subservient to man's elevation."

[Mr. Miall, one would think, is as familiar with the *Courier* and the *Advertiser* of Boston, and the *Journal of Commerce* of this city, as he is with the *Times*, he analyses their character so admirably.]—*Ed. Stand.*

——GARRICK.—Of Garrick all have heard; but none of the present generation have seen him, and it is the more advanced in years only who have received accounts of his extraordinary talents from eye-witnesses. They were undoubtedly, however, of the very highest description. The estimation in which he was held by the greatest men of his own, not the least of any age, sufficiently proves this. The companion of Johnson and Burke, of Goldsmith and Reynolds, of Fox and Gibbon, must have been no common man, independent altogether of his theatrical abilities. Like all persons of the highest class of intellect, his talents were not confined to his own profession; they shone out in every department of thought. He was as great at the supper of the Literary Club, when in presence of the eloquence of Burke or the gladiatorial powers of Johnson, as when he entranced the audience at Covent Garden or Drury Lane. Those who enjoyed his friendship spoke in the highest terms of his conversational powers, as well as the varied subjects of information which exercised his thoughts, and the simple and amiable turn of his mind. As an actor, his most remarkable quality was his versatility. He had few advantages from nature. His figure, though not actually diminutive, was neither tall nor commanding; his countenance was far from being cast in the antique mould; his voice neither remarkably sonorous nor powerful. But all these deficiencies were supplied, and more than supplied, by the energy of his mind and the incomparable powers of observation which he possessed. There never was such a delineation at once of the tragic and comic passions. He united the eye of Hogarth for the ludicrous, and that of Salvator for the terrible; that of Caracci for the pathetic, and that of Velasquez for the dignified. It was this close observation of nature which constituted his great power, and enabled him to wield at will, and with such surprising effect, the magic wand which swayed the feelings of his audience, alternately rousing them to the highest exaltation of the tragic and the utmost stretch of the comic passions. This peculiar faculty, however, had its disadvantages; it made him fond of stage-effect, and condescend to trick. He performed "Lear" on crutches, to add to the effect of the great scene, when he threw them away. It is difficult to conceive how such a combination can exist in the same individual; and certainly experience affords very few instances of a similar union. But the examples of Shakspere and Sir Walter Scott prove that such a blending of apparently heterogeneous qualities may be found in the most highly-gifted dramatic poets. Napoleon's celebrated saying, "from the sublime to the ridiculous is but a step," may possibly afford, in a certain degree, a key to the mystery. And the peculiarity was probably founded in both, on the same accurate eye for the working of the human heart, and power of graphic delineation, which, alike in the poet and the performer, is the foundation of dramatic excellence.—*Alison's Essays.*